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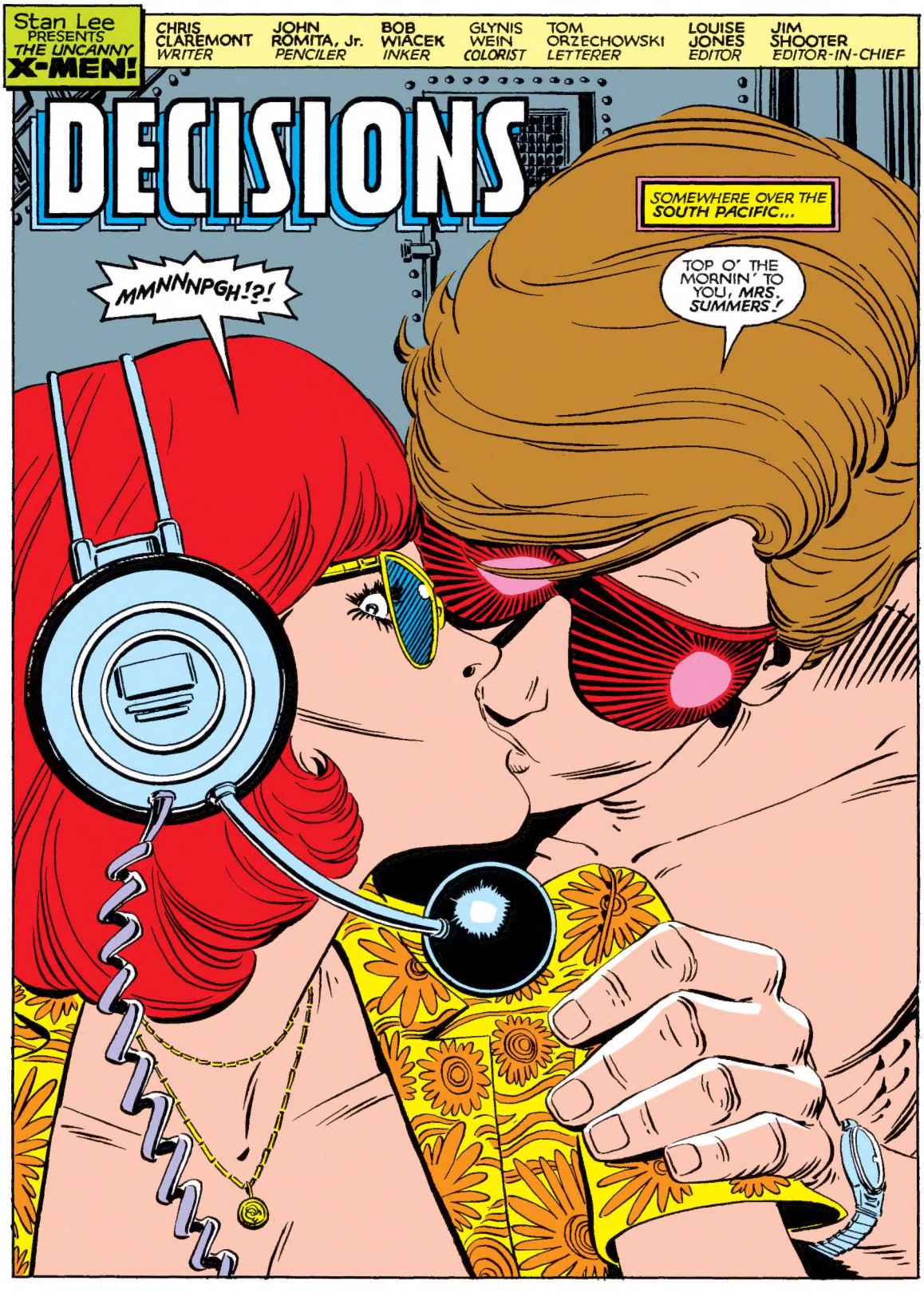

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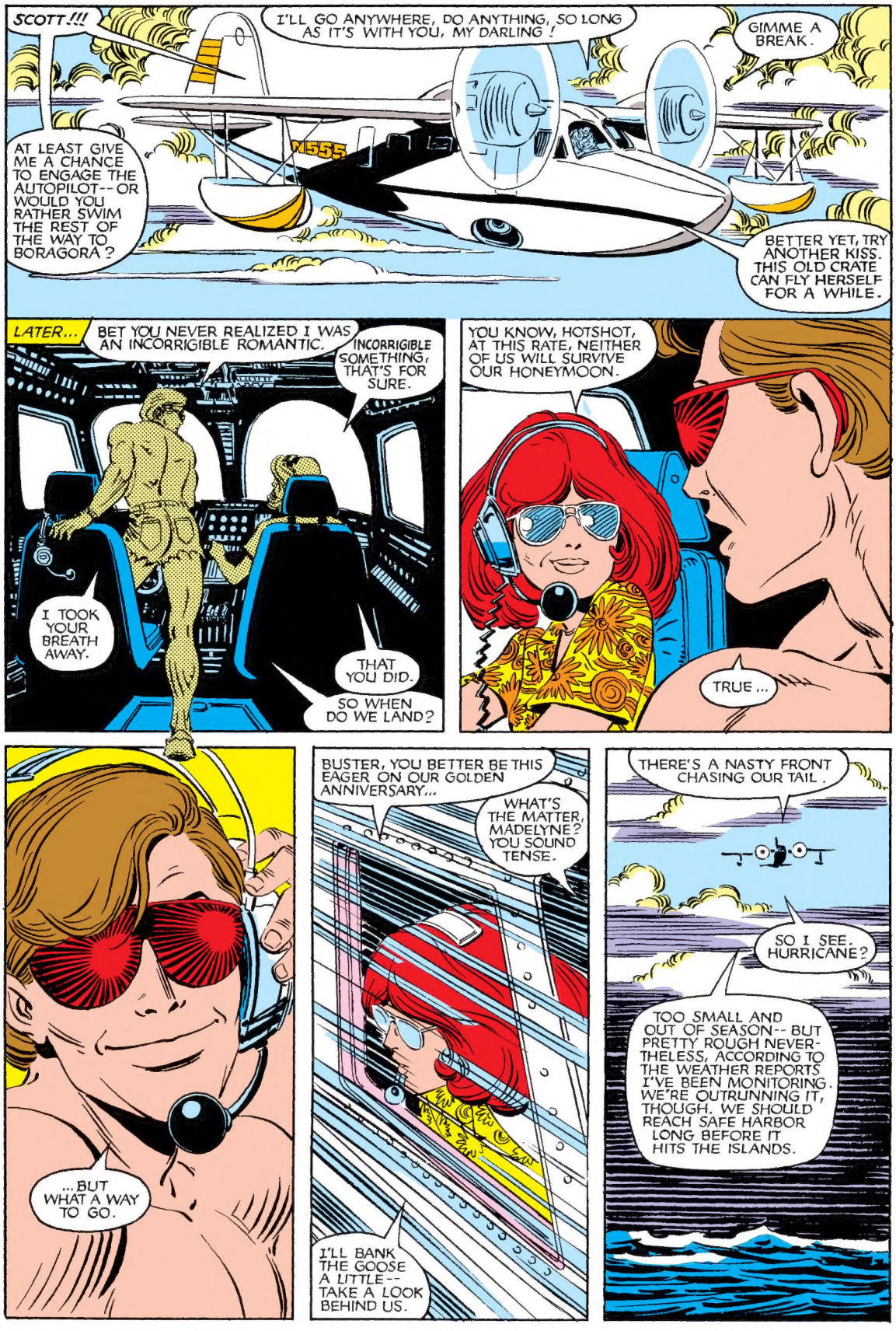
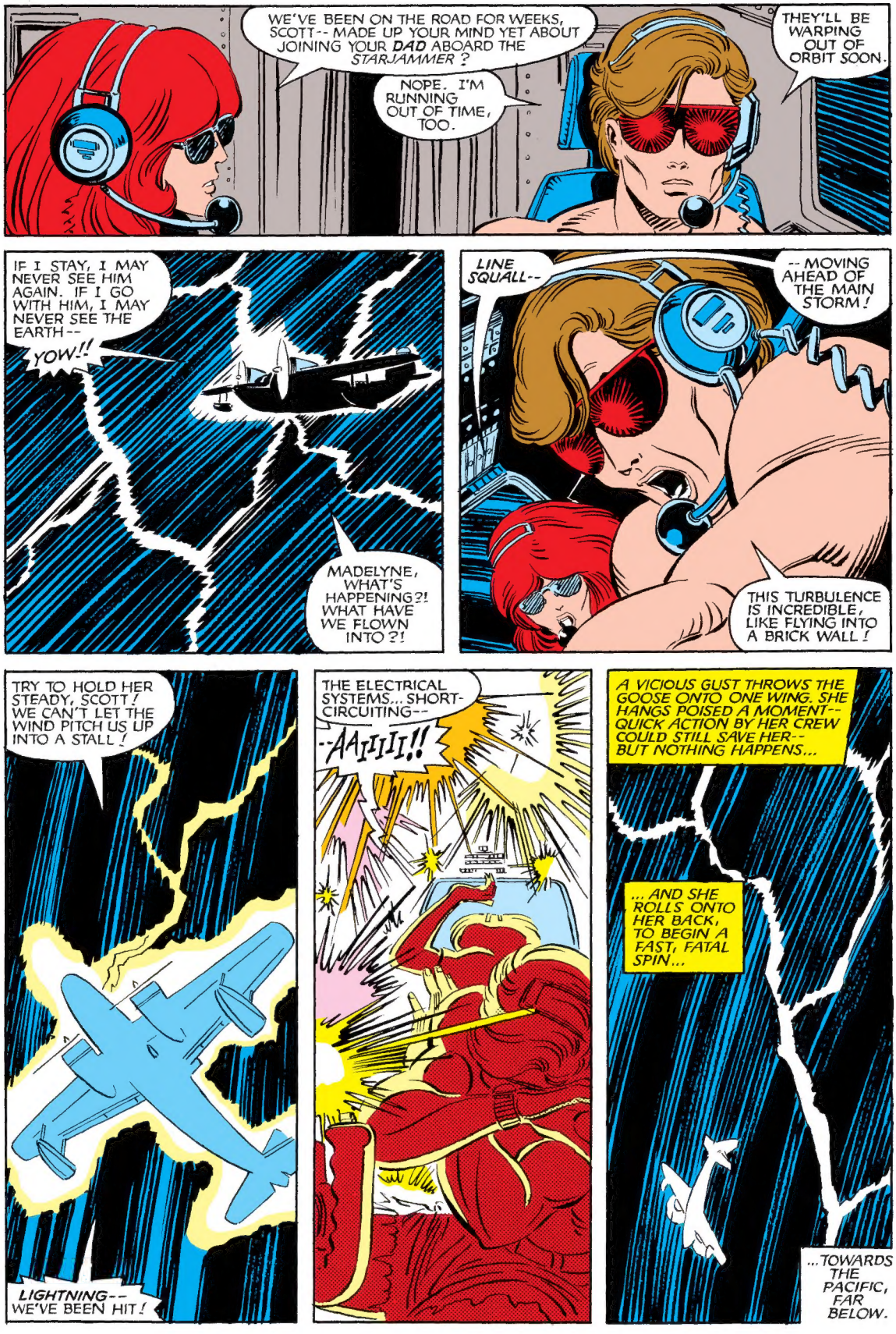
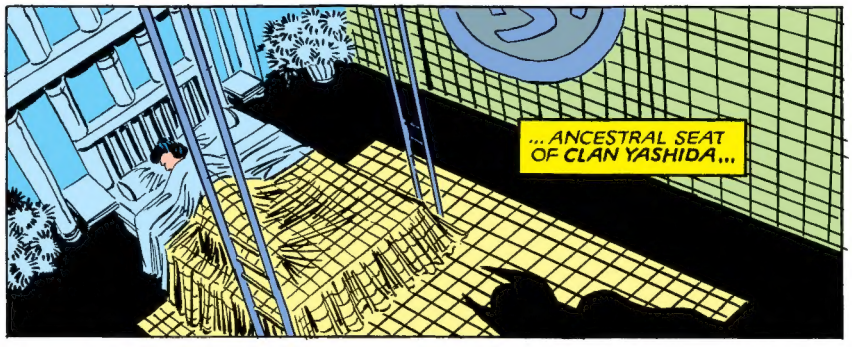
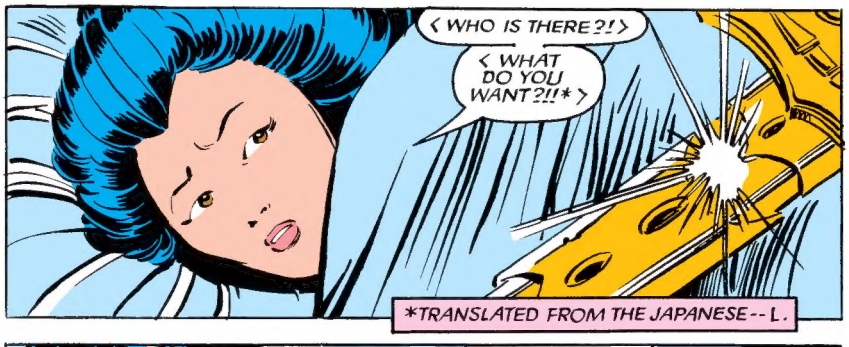
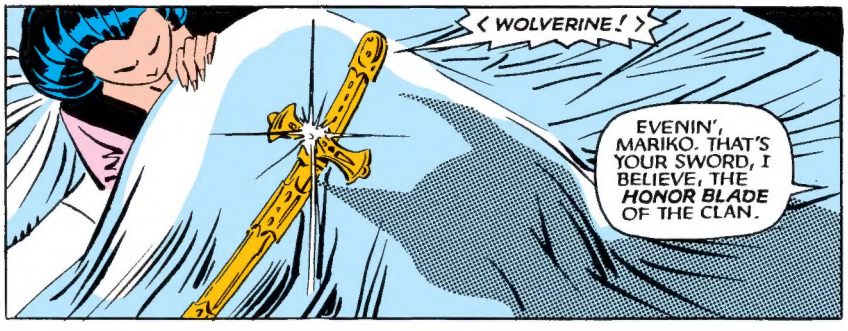

SCOTT!!!
I'LL GO ANYWHERE, DO ANYTHING, SO LONG AS IT'S WITH YOU, MY DARLING!
GIMME A BREAK.
AT LEAST GIVE ME A CHANCE TO ENGAGE THE AUTOPILOT--OR WOULD YOU RATHER SWIM THE REST OF THE WAY TO BORAGORA?
N555
BETTER YET, TRY ANOTHER KISS. THIS OLD CRATE CAN FLY HERSELF FOR A WHILE.
LATER...
BET YOU NEVER REALIZED I WAS AN INCORRIGIBLE ROMANTIC.
INCORRIGIBLE SOMETHING, THAT'S FOR SURE.
I TOOK YOUR BREATH AWAY.
THAT YOU DID.
SO WHEN DO WE LAND?
YOU KNOW, HOTSHOT, AT THIS RATE, NEITHER OF US WILL SURVIVE OUR HONEYMOON.
TRUE...
...BUT WHAT A WAY TO GO.
BUSTER, YOU BETTER BE THIS EAGER ON OUR GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MADELYNE? YOU SOUND TENSE.
I'LL BANK THE GOOSE A LITTLE--TAKE A LOOK BEHIND US.
THERE'S A NASTY FRONT CHASING OUR TAIL.
SO I SEE. HURRICANE?
TOO SMALL AND OUT OF SEASON--BUT PRETTY ROUGH NEVERTHELESS, ACCORDING TO THE WEATHER REPORTS I'VE BEEN MONITORING. WE'RE OUTRUNNING IT, THOUGH. WE SHOULD REACH SAFE HARBOR LONG BEFORE IT HITS THE ISLANDS.


WE'VE BEEN ON THE ROAD FOR WEEKS, SCOTT-- MADE UP YOUR MIND YET ABOUT JOINING YOUR DAD ABOARD THE STARJAMMER ?
NOPE. I'M RUNNING OUT OF TIME, TOO.
THEY'LL BE WARPING OUT OF ORBIT SOON.
IF I STAY, I MAY NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN. IF I GO WITH HIM, I MAY NEVER SEE THE EARTH--
YOW!!
MADELYNE, WHAT'S HAPPENING?! WHAT HAVE WE FLOWN INTO?!
LINE SQUALL--
-- MOVING AHEAD OF THE MAIN STORM!
THIS TURBULENCE IS INCREDIBLE, LIKE FLYING INTO A BRICK WALL!
TRY TO HOLD HER STEADY, SCOTT! WE CAN'T LET THE WIND PITCH US UP INTO A STALL!
LIGHTNING-- WE'VE BEEN HIT!
THE ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS... SHORT-CIRCUITING--
--AAIIIII!!
A VICIOUS GUST THROWS THE GOOSE ONTO ONE WING. SHE HANGS POISED A MOMENT-- QUICK ACTION BY HER CREW COULD STILL SAVE HER-- BUT NOTHING HAPPENS...
... AND SHE ROLLS ONTO HER BACK, TO BEGIN A FAST, FATAL SPIN...
...TOWARDS THE PACIFIC, FAR BELOW.

AGARASHIMA, IN THE NORTHERN JAPANESE PREFECTURE OF MIYAGO...

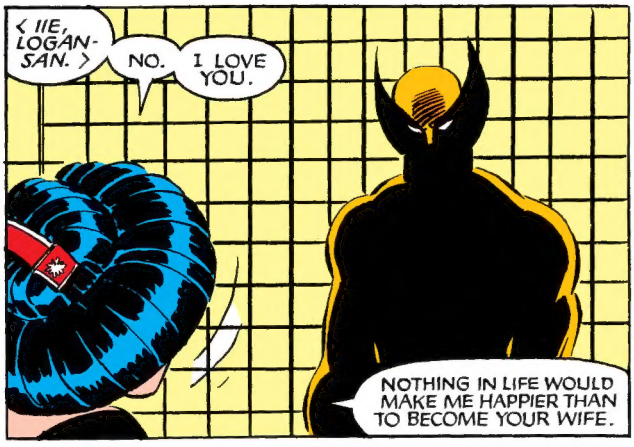

...ANCESTRAL SEAT OF CLAN YASHIDA...

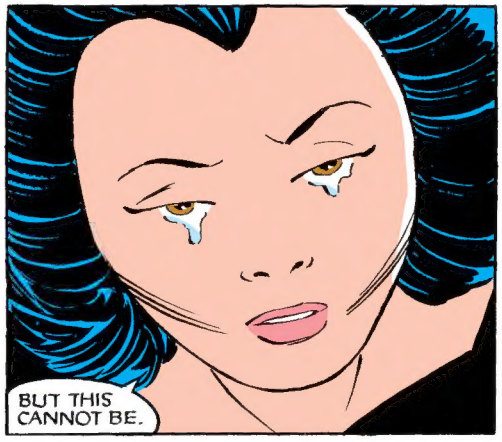

< WHO IS THERE?! >
< WHAT DO YOU WANT?!!* >
*TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE -- L.

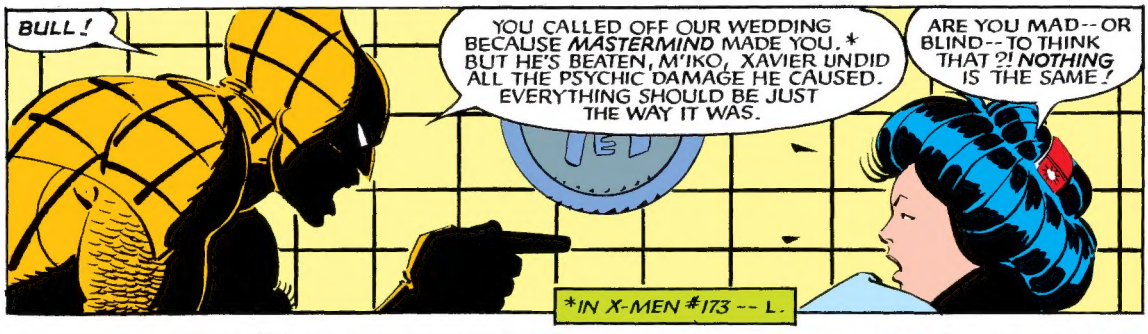

< WOLVERINE! >
EVENIN', MARIKO. THAT'S YOUR SWORD, I BELIEVE, THE HONOR BLADE OF THE CLAN.

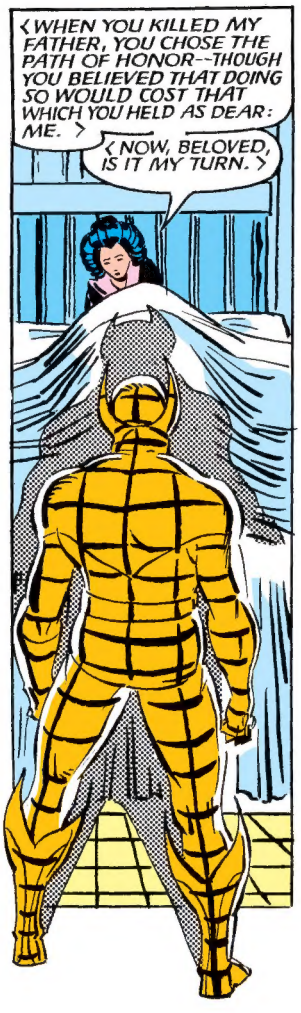
TWO DAYS AGO, AN IMPERIAL MESSENGER DELIVERED IT TO ME IN NEW YORK.
I WANT TO KNOW WHY.
IT IS YOURS BY RIGHT.

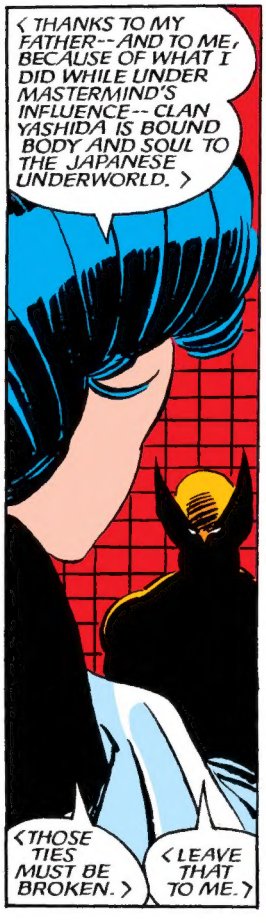
IF THAT'S TRUE...
...YOU'RE MINE AS WELL.

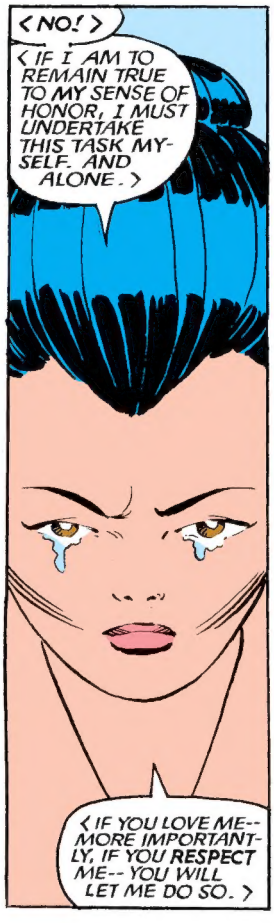

< IIE, LOGAN-SAN. >
NO.
I LOVE YOU.
NOTHING IN LIFE WOULD MAKE ME HAPPIER THAN TO BECOME YOUR WIFE.


BUT THIS CANNOT BE.

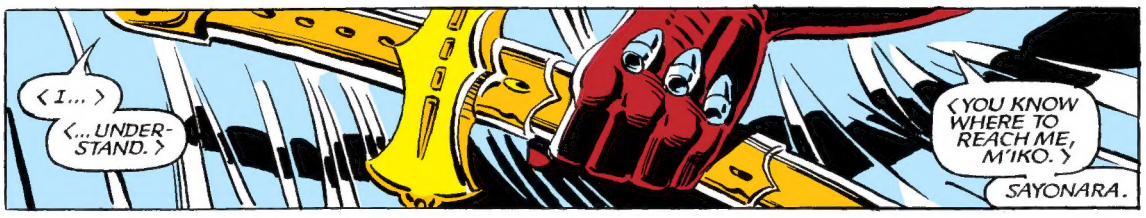

BULL!
YOU CALLED OFF OUR WEDDING BECAUSE MASTERMIND MADE YOU.* BUT HE'S BEATEN, M'IKO, XAVIER UNDID ALL THE PSYCHIC DAMAGE HE CAUSED. EVERYTHING SHOULD BE JUST THE WAY IT WAS.
ARE YOU MAD--OR BLIND--TO THINK THAT?! NOTHING IS THE SAME!
*IN X-MEN #173 -- L.

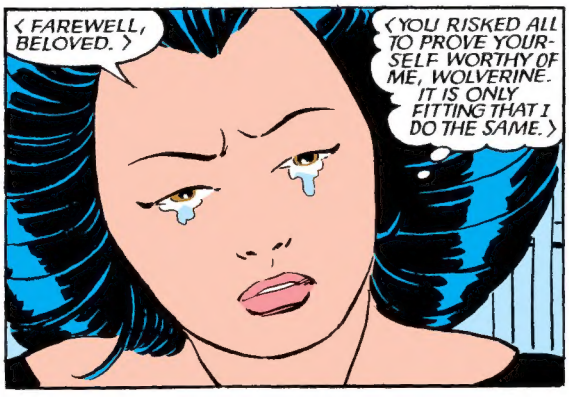

< WHEN YOU KILLED MY FATHER, YOU CHOSE THE PATH OF HONOR--THOUGH YOU BELIEVED THAT DOING SO WOULD COST THAT WHICH YOU HELD AS DEAR: ME. >
< NOW, BELOVED, IS IT MY TURN. >


< THANKS TO MY FATHER--AND TO ME, BECAUSE OF WHAT I DID WHILE UNDER MASTERMIND'S INFLUENCE-- CLAN YASHIDA IS BOUND BODY AND SOUL TO THE JAPANESE UNDERWORLD. >
< THOSE TIES MUST BE BROKEN. >
< LEAVE THAT TO ME. >


< NO! >
< IF I AM TO REMAIN TRUE TO MY SENSE OF HONOR, I MUST UNDERTAKE THIS TASK MYSELF. AND ALONE. >
< IF YOU LOVE ME--MORE IMPORTANTLY, IF YOU RESPECT ME-- YOU WILL LET ME DO SO. >

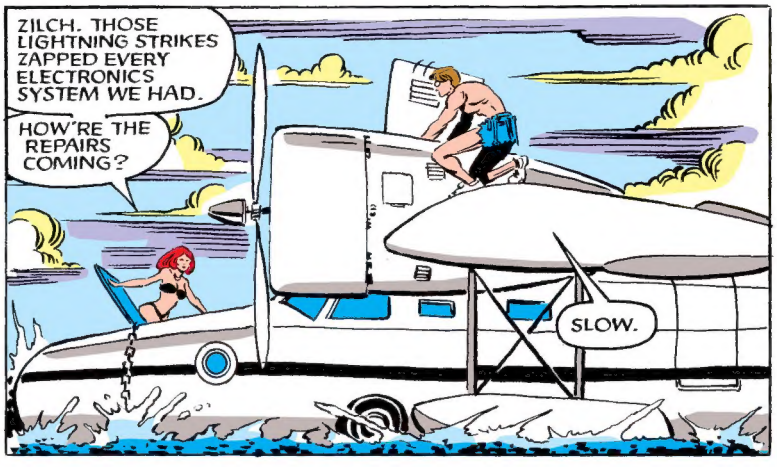
< SUPPOSE YOU FAIL? >
< THEN THE MAN TO WHOM I HAVE ENTRUSTED MY HEART WILL DO WHAT MUST BE DONE. >

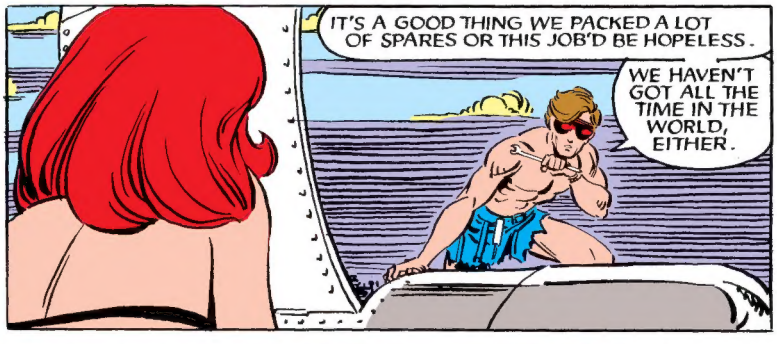

< I... >
<...UNDER-STAND. >
<YOU KNOW WHERE TO REACH ME, M'IKO. >
SAYONARA.


< FAREWELL, BELOVED. >
<YOU RISKED ALL TO PROVE YOUR-SELF WORTHY OF ME, WOLVERINE. IT IS ONLY FITTING THAT I DO THE SAME. >

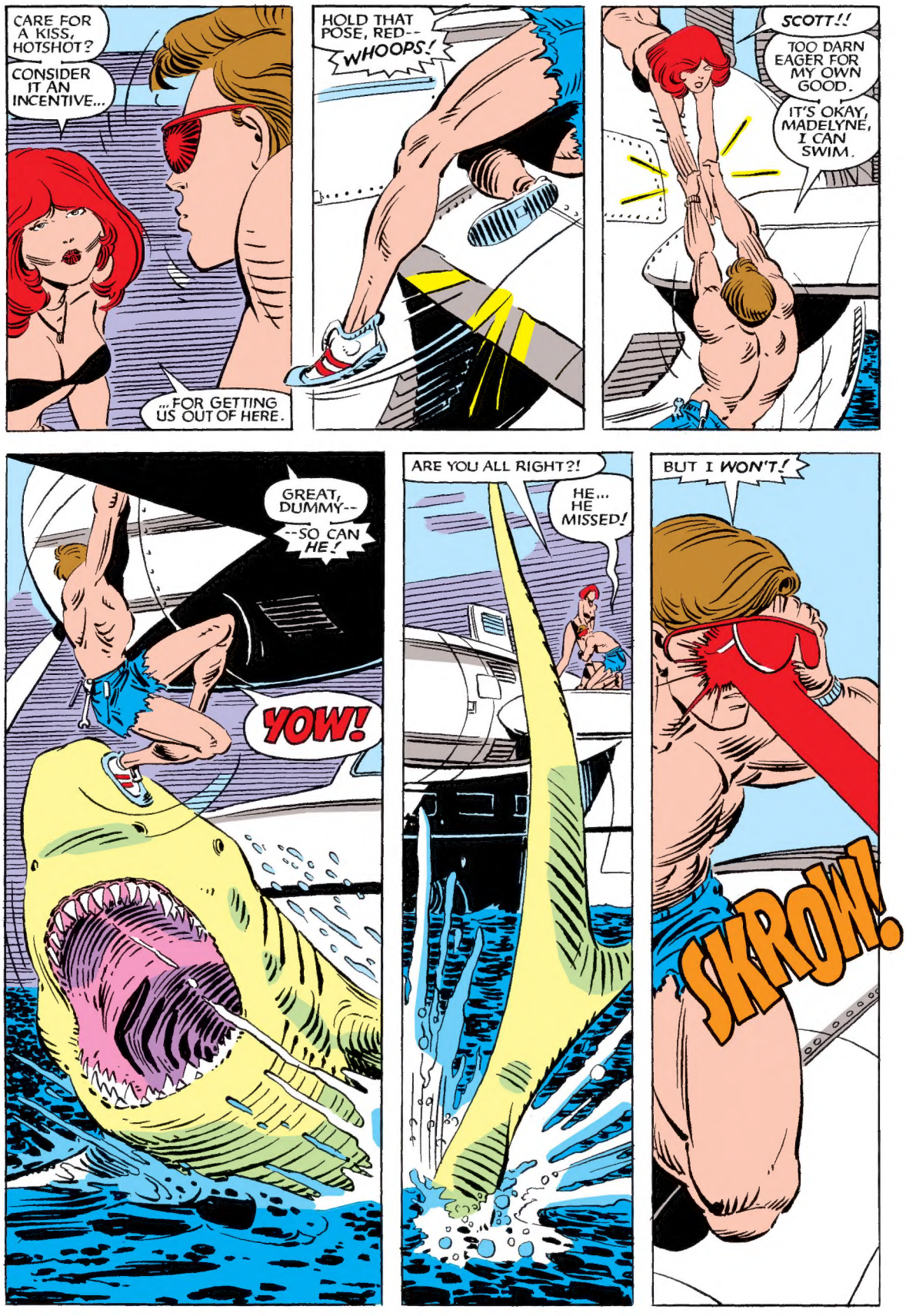
< I DO NOT WANT TO DIE--NOR TO SEE OTHERS SLAIN IN MY NAME. BUT I AM LORD OF CLAN YASHIDA. >
< I CANNOT SHIRK THAT RESPONSIBILITY -- NO MATTER WHAT THE COST. >

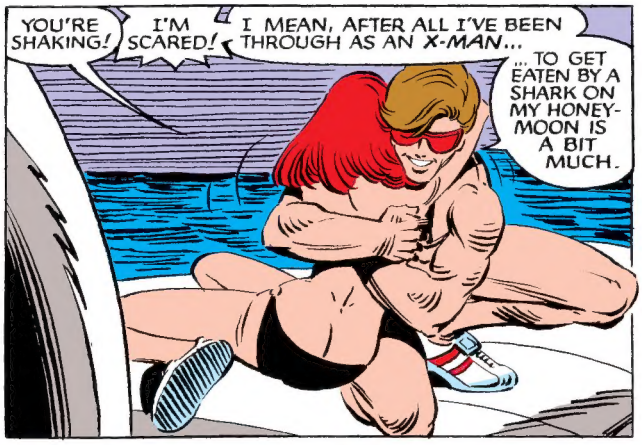
SOMEWHERE IN MID-PACIFIC...
ANY LUCK WITH THE RADIO?

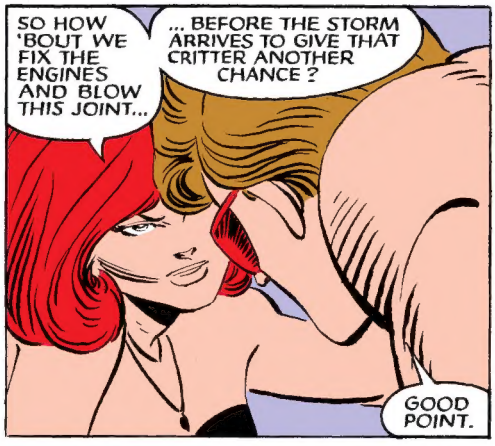

ZILCH. THOSE LIGHTNING STRIKES ZAPPED EVERY ELECTRONICS SYSTEM WE HAD.
HOW'RE THE REPAIRS COMING?
SLOW.

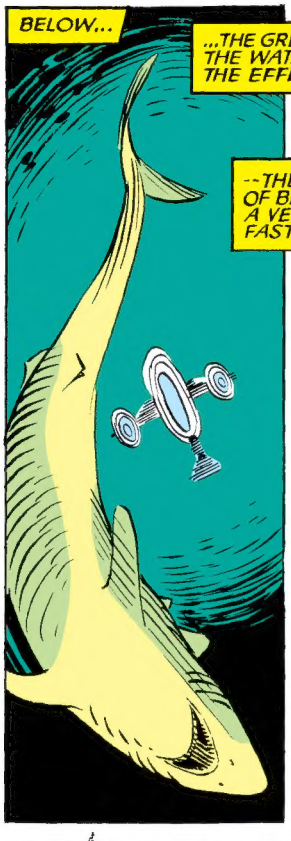

IT'S A GOOD THING WE PACKED A LOT OF SPARES OR THIS JOB'D BE HOPELESS.
WE HAVEN'T GOT ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD, EITHER.

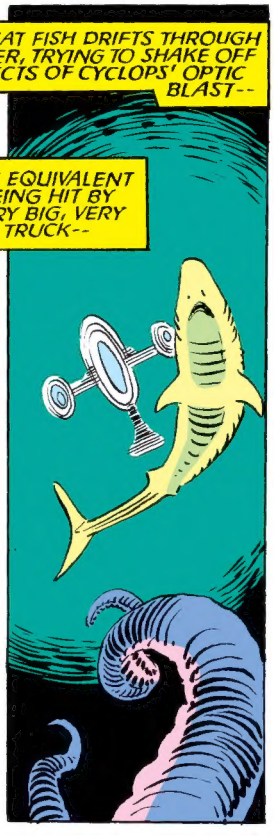
YOU LOOKED WEST LATELY...
...OR FELT THE SWELLS?
THAT STORM'S COMING OUR WAY.

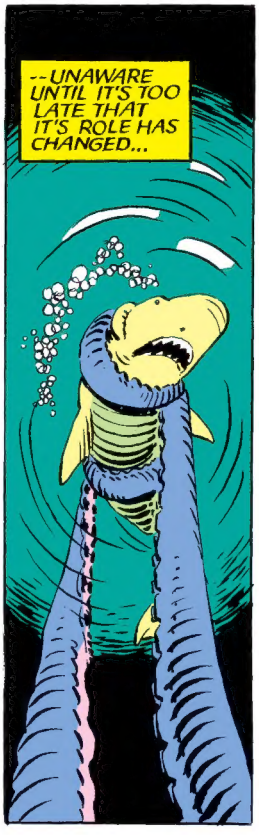

CARE FOR A KISS, HOTSHOT?
CONSIDER IT AN INCENTIVE...
...FOR GETTING US OUT OF HERE.
HOLD THAT POSE, RED--
WHOOPS!
SCOTT!!
TOO DARN EAGER FOR MY OWN GOOD.
IT'S OKAY, MADELYNE, I CAN SWIM.
GREAT, DUMMY--
--SO CAN HE!
YOW!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
HE... HE MISSED!
BUT I WON'T!
SKROW!

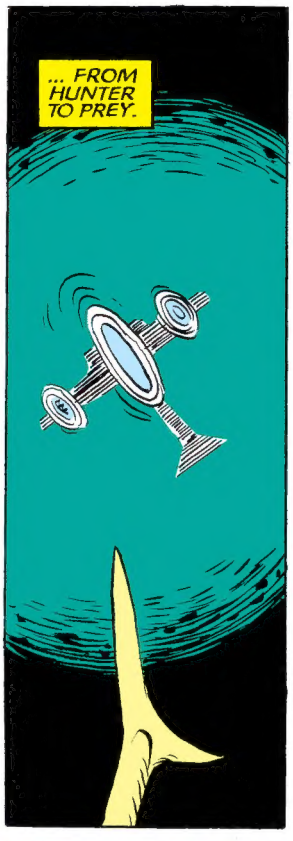

YOU'RE SHAKING!
I'M SCARED!
I MEAN, AFTER ALL I'VE BEEN THROUGH AS AN X-MAN...
... TO GET EATEN BY A SHARK ON MY HONEY-MOON IS A BIT MUCH.

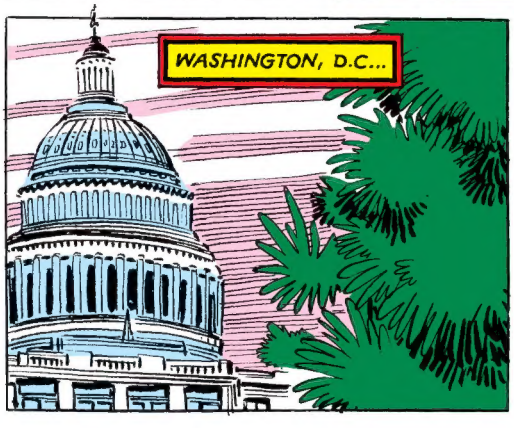

SO HOW 'BOUT WE FIX THE ENGINES AND BLOW THIS JOINT...
... BEFORE THE STORM ARRIVES TO GIVE THAT CRITTER ANOTHER CHANCE ?
GOOD POINT.

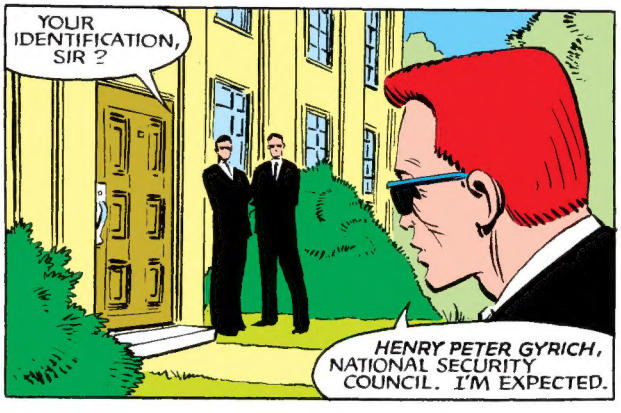

BELOW...

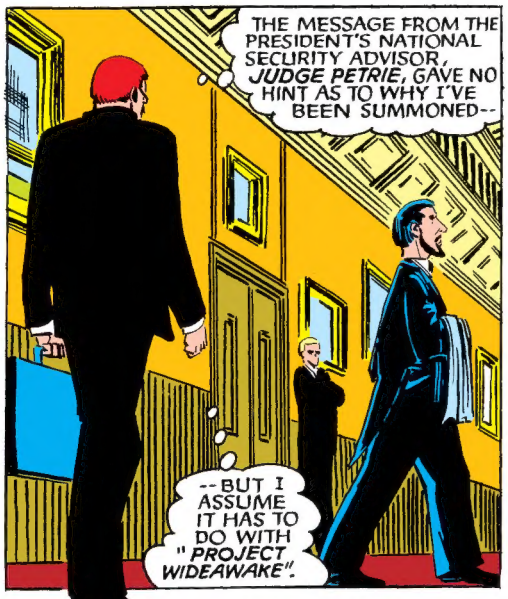

...THE GREAT FISH DRIFTS THROUGH THE WATER, TRYING TO SHAKE OFF THE EFFECTS OF CYCLOPS' OPTIC BLAST--
--THE EQUIVALENT OF BEING HIT BY A VERY BIG, VERY FAST TRUCK--

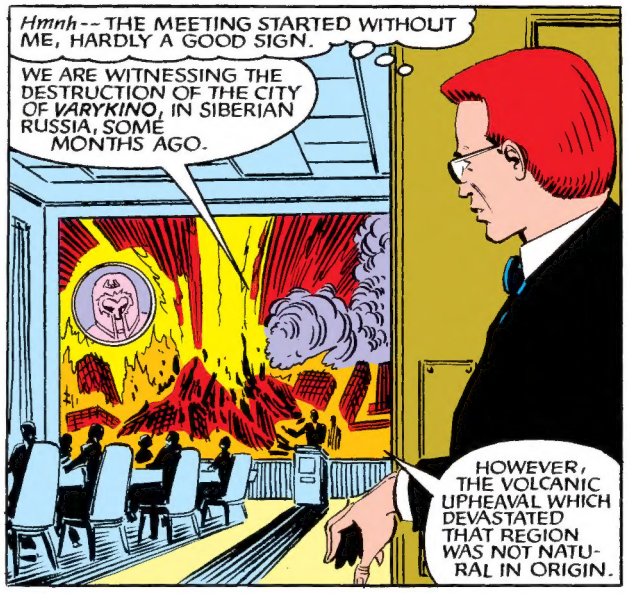

--UNAWARE UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE THAT IT'S ROLE HAS CHANGED...


... FROM HUNTER TO PREY.

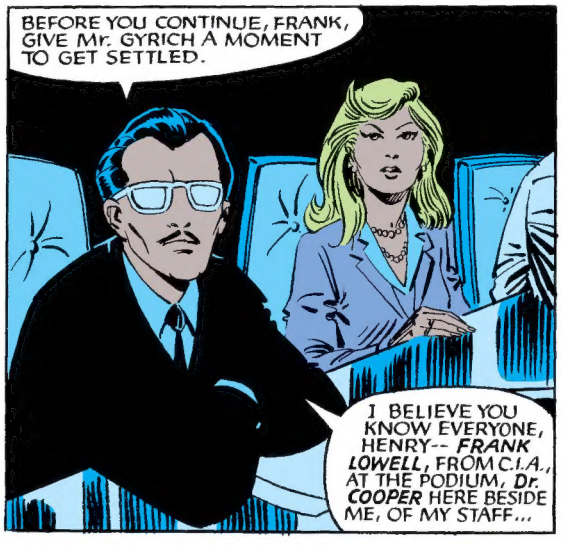

WASHINGTON, D.C...

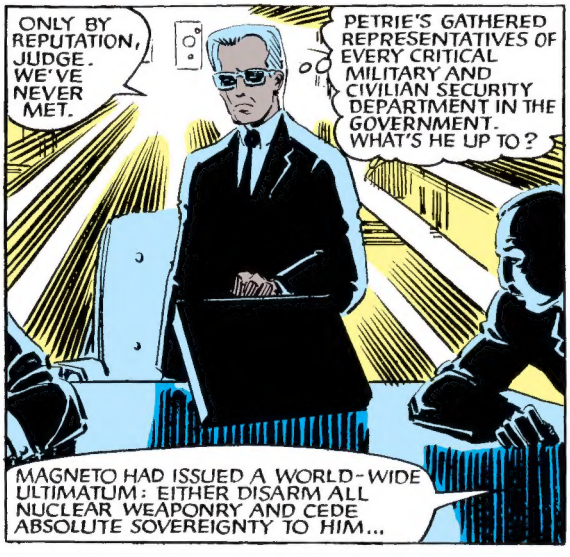

YOUR IDENTIFICATION, SIR ?
HENRY PETER GYRICH, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL. I'M EXPECTED.

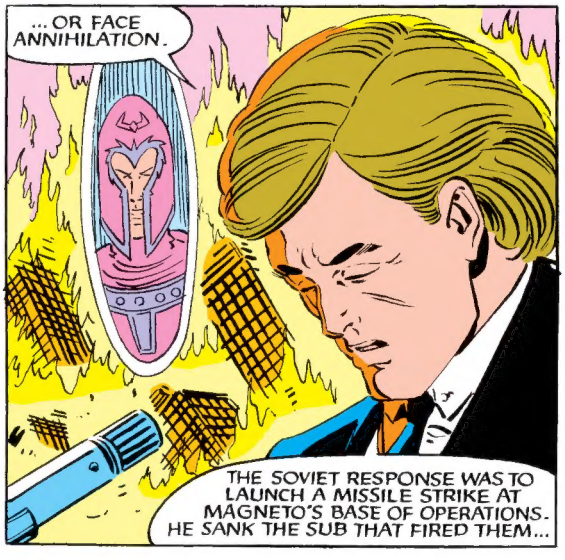

THE MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR, JUDGE PETRIE, GAVE NO HINT AS TO WHY I'VE BEEN SUMMONED--
--BUT I ASSUME IT HAS TO DO WITH "PROJECT WIDEAWAKE".


Hmnh--THE MEETING STARTED WITHOUT ME, HARDLY A GOOD SIGN.
WE ARE WITNESSING THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CITY OF VARYKINO, IN SIBERIAN RUSSIA, SOME MONTHS AGO.
HOWEVER, THE VOLCANIC UPHEAVAL WHICH DEVASTATED THAT REGION WAS NOT NATURAL IN ORIGIN.

ITS CAUSE WAS THE SELF-STYLED MASTER OF MAGNETISM:
...MAGNETO.
REPORTEDLY, HE GAVE THE SOVIETS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EVACUATE THE CITY. NO ONE WAS KILLED, BUT HIS WARNING WAS PLAIN. WHAT WAS DONE THERE COULD BE REPEATED...
...IN MOSCOW, OR WASHINGTON--OR ANYWHERE ON EARTH.


BEFORE YOU CONTINUE, FRANK, GIVE Mr. GYRICH A MOMENT TO GET SETTLED.
I BELIEVE YOU KNOW EVERYONE, HENRY--FRANK LOWELL, FROM C.I.A., AT THE PODIUM, Dr. COOPER HERE BESIDE ME, OF MY STAFF...


ONLY BY REPUTATION, JUDGE. WE'VE NEVER MET.
PETRIE'S GATHERED REPRESENTATIVES OF EVERY CRITICAL MILITARY AND CIVILIAN SECURITY DEPARTMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT. WHAT'S HE UP TO?
MAGNETO HAD ISSUED A WORLD-WIDE ULTIMATUM: EITHER DISARM ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONRY AND CEDE ABSOLUTE SOVEREIGNTY TO HIM...


...OR FACE ANNIHILATION.
THE SOVIET RESPONSE WAS TO LAUNCH A MISSILE STRIKE AT MAGNETO'S BASE OF OPERATIONS. HE SANK THE SUB THAT FIRED THEM...

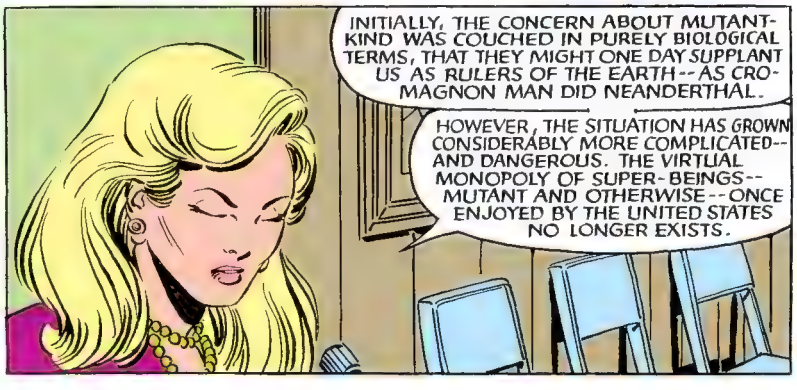
...AND PROCEEDED TO MAKE AN OBJECT LESSON OF VARYKINO.
INEXPLICABLY, AFTER THOSE INITIAL COMMUNICATIONS, NOTHING MORE WAS HEARD FROM HIM. HE NEVER CARRIED OUT HIS ULTIMATE THREAT.
EITHER HE WAS BLUFFING, OR CHANGED HIS MIND--

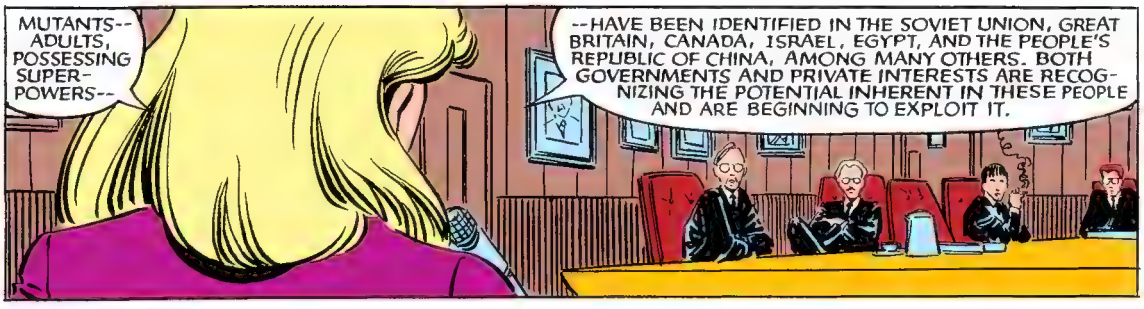
--OR SOME OUTSIDE AGENCY STOPPED HIM. * HAD HE PERSISTED, OUR COMPUTERS GRANT HIM A STRONG POSSIBILITY OF SUCCESS-- EVEN AGAINST THE OPPOSITION OF SUCH SO-CALLED "SUPER-HERO" GROUPS AS THE AVENGERS.
*THE X-MEN, IN ISSUE #150--L.

INDEED, OUR RESEARCH FURTHER INDICATES THAT WERE THE AVENGERS THEMSELVES TO ATTEMPT THE CONQUEST OF THE EARTH...
...THEY COULD DO SO WITH EASE.

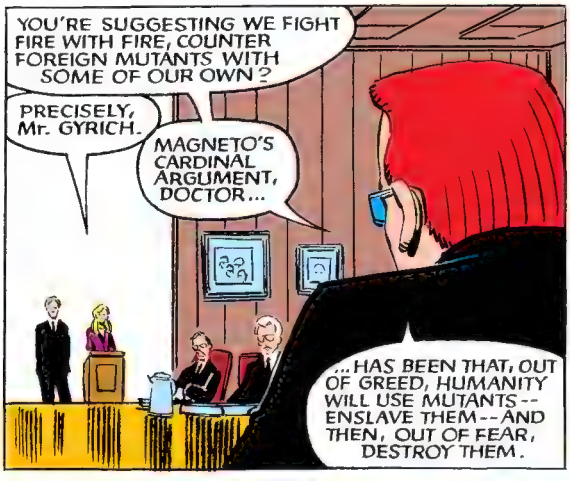
THEY ARE BUT A SINGLE TEAM-- A COMPARATIVE HANDFUL OF SUPER-BEINGS-- THERE ARE A LOT MORE WHERE THEY CAME FROM. AND THE NUMBERS ARE GROWING EVERY DAY.
TO CONCLUDE THIS BRIEFING, ALLOW ME TO PRESENT Dr. VALERIE COOPER...
THANK YOU, FRANK.
THE PROBLEM, JUDGE, COLLEAGUES, IS MUTANTS.

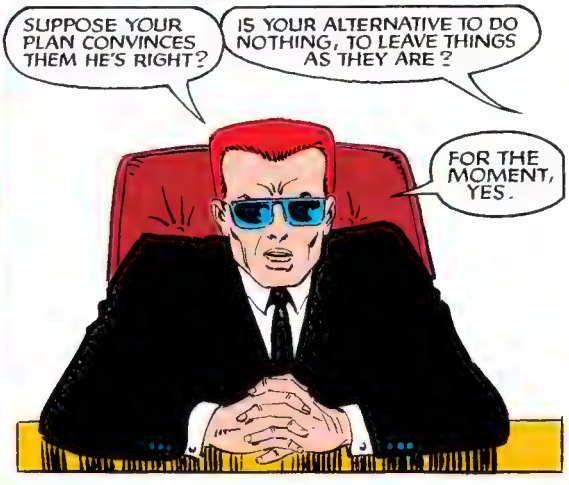
"A NEW EVOLUTIONARY BRANCH OF HOMO SAPIENS--POSSIBLY A NEW SPECIES ALTOGETHER-- GIFTED AT BIRTH WITH EXTRA-ORDINARY ABILITIES THAT SET THEM APART FROM THE REST OF HUMANITY.
MOST PROMINENT AMONG THEM ARE THE X-MEN.

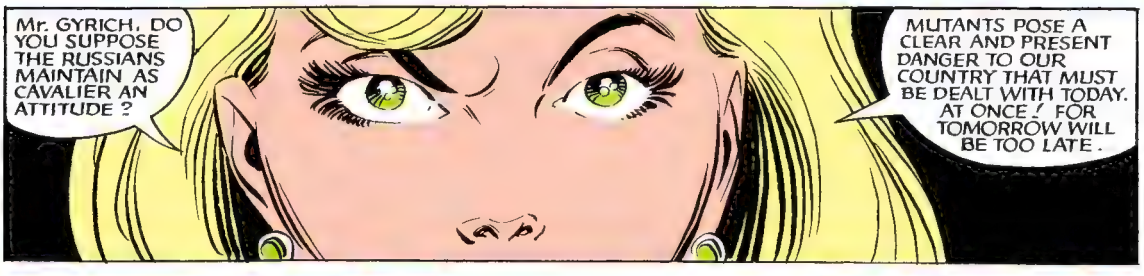

INITIALLY, THE CONCERN ABOUT MUTANT-KIND WAS COUCHED IN PURELY BIOLOGICAL TERMS, THAT THEY MIGHT ONE DAY SUPPLANT US AS RULERS OF THE EARTH--AS CRO-MAGNON MAN DID NEANDERTHAL.
HOWEVER, THE SITUATION HAS GROWN CONSIDERABLY MORE COMPLICATED-- AND DANGEROUS. THE VIRTUAL MONOPOLY OF SUPER-BEINGS-- MUTANT AND OTHERWISE--ONCE ENJOYED BY THE UNITED STATES NO LONGER EXISTS.

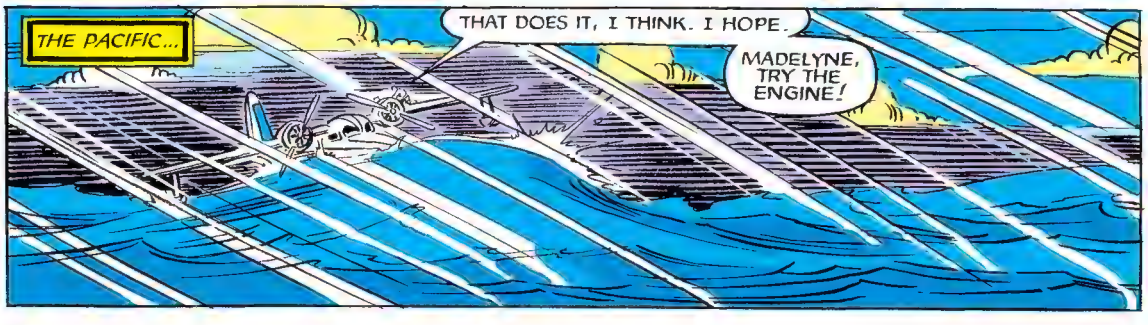

MUTANTS-- ADULTS, POSSESSING SUPER-POWERS--
--HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE SOVIET UNION, GREAT BRITAIN, CANADA, ISRAEL, EGYPT, AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AMONG MANY OTHERS. BOTH GOVERNMENTS AND PRIVATE INTERESTS ARE RECOGNIZING THE POTENTIAL INHERENT IN THESE PEOPLE AND ARE BEGINNING TO EXPLOIT IT.

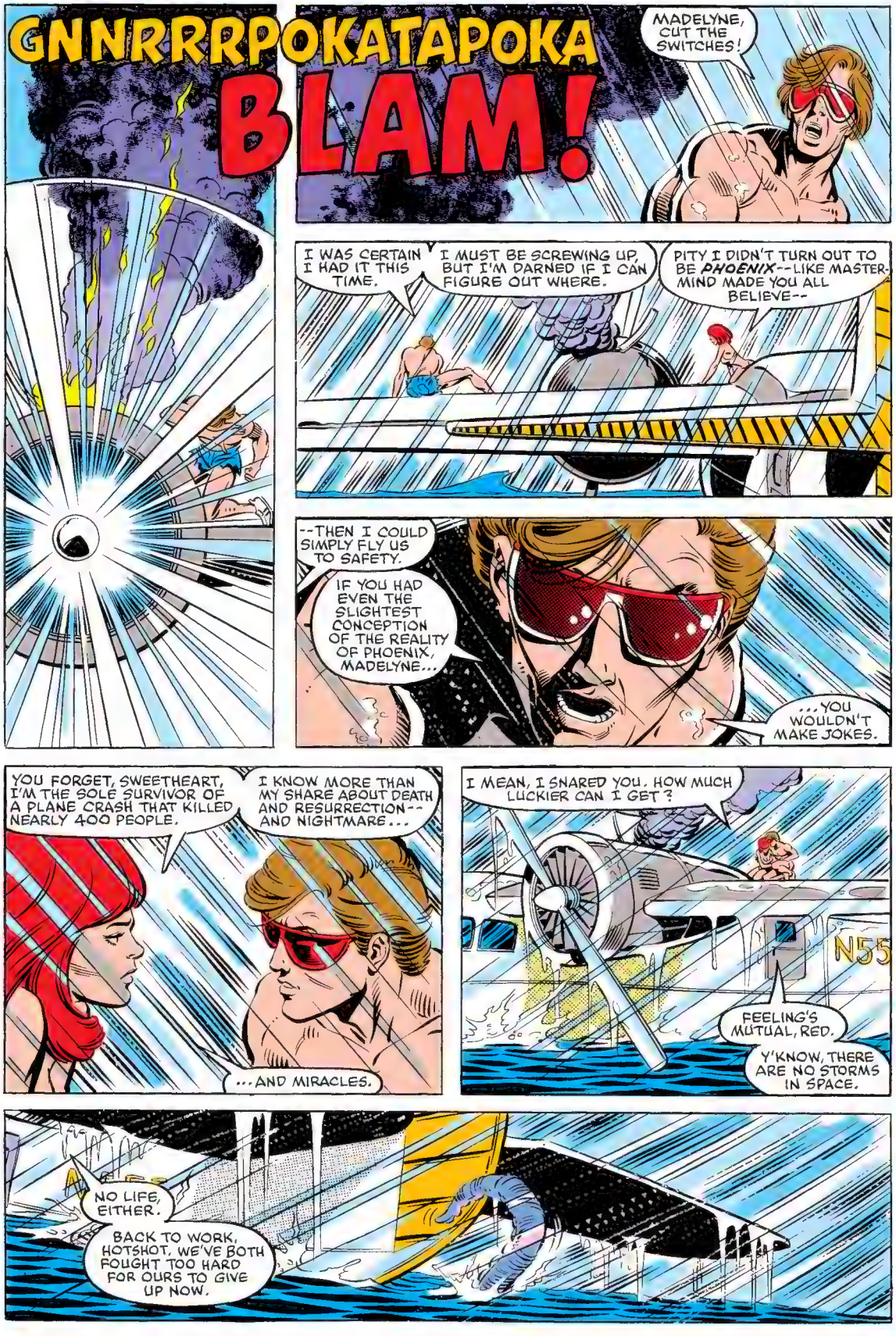
IMAGINE, IF YOU WILL, THE DAMAGE THAT COULD BE DONE BY A MUTANT TELEPATHIC SPY, ABLE TO READ MINDS. NO ONE'S THOUGHTS--NO SECRET-- WOULD BE SAFE.
OR, WORSE YET, A MUTANT SABOTEUR. AN ASSASSIN. FOR ALL WE KNOW, SUCH OPERATIVES MAY ALREADY BE AT WORK.
WE MUST HAVE THE ABILITY TO PROTECT OURSELVES AND, IF NECESSARY, STRIKE BACK!

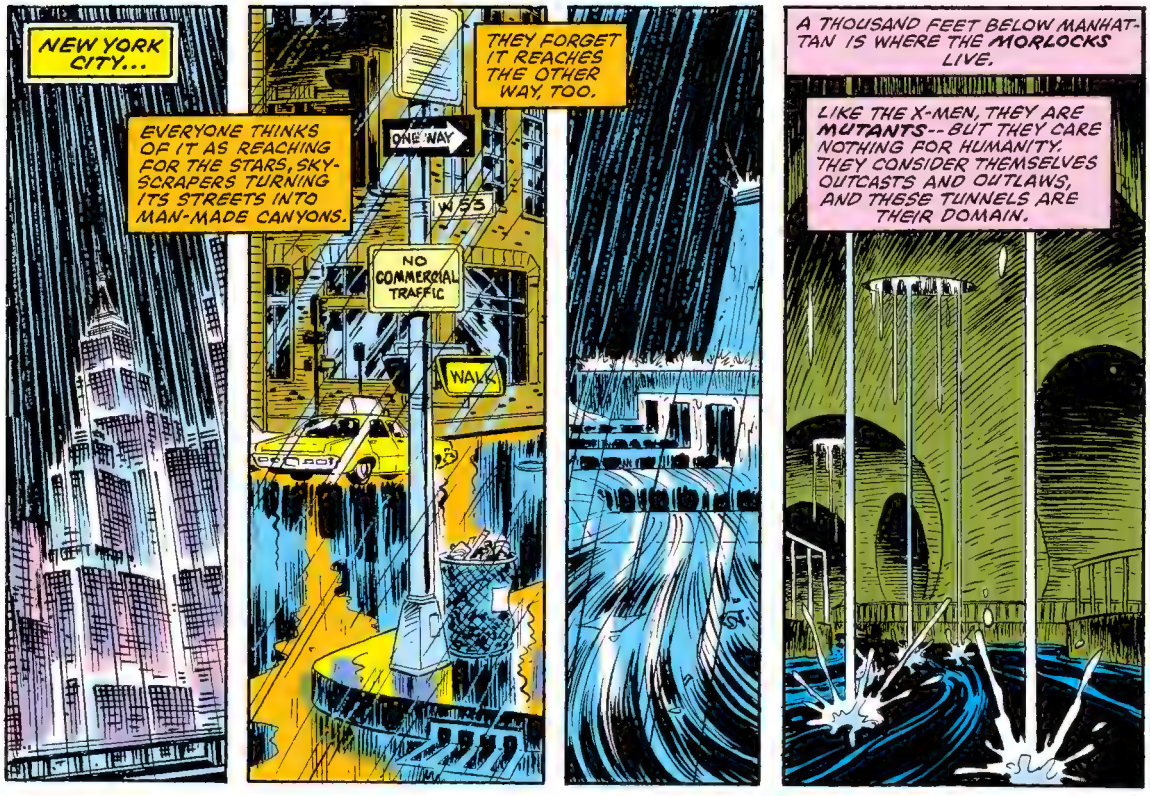

YOU'RE SUGGESTING WE FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE, COUNTER FOREIGN MUTANTS WITH SOME OF OUR OWN?
PRECISELY, Mr. GYRICH.
MAGNETO'S CARDINAL ARGUMENT, DOCTOR...
...HAS BEEN THAT, OUT OF GREED, HUMANITY WILL USE MUTANTS-- ENSLAVE THEM--AND THEN, OUT OF FEAR, DESTROY THEM.

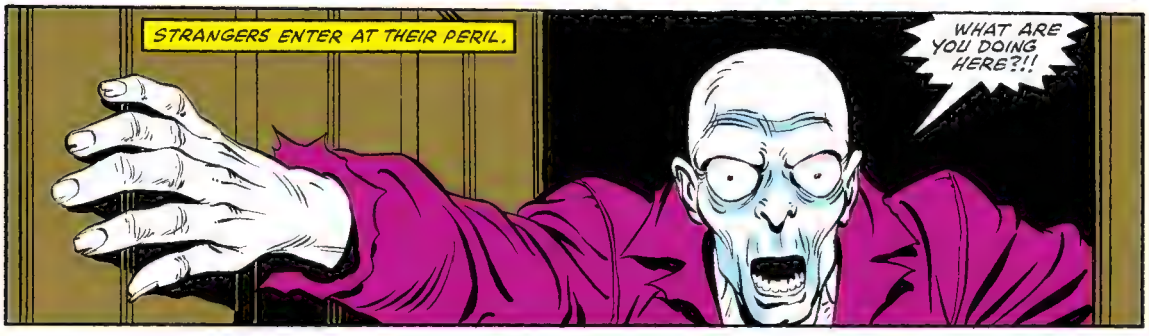

SUPPOSE YOUR PLAN CONVINCES THEM HE'S RIGHT?
IS YOUR ALTERNATIVE TO DO NOTHING, TO LEAVE THINGS AS THEY ARE?
FOR THE MOMENT, YES.

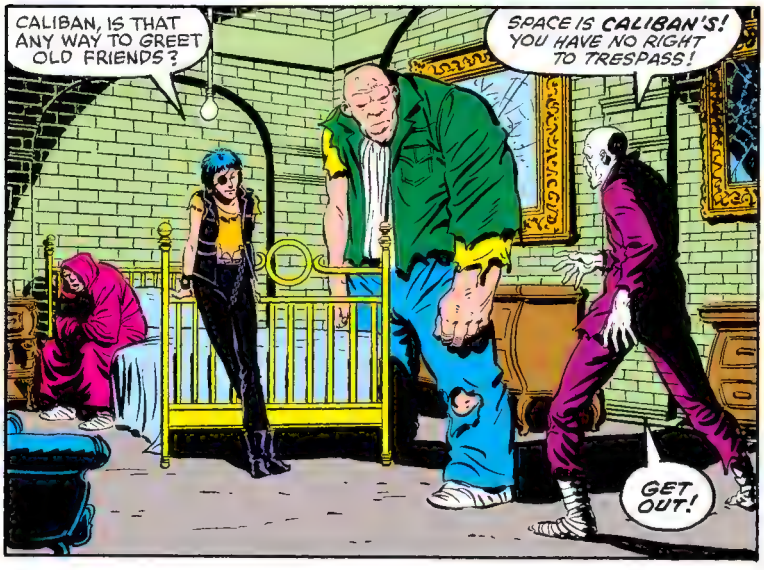

Mr. GYRICH, DO YOU SUPPOSE THE RUSSIANS MAINTAIN AS CAVALIER AN ATTITUDE?
MUTANTS POSE A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER TO OUR COUNTRY THAT MUST BE DEALT WITH TODAY. AT ONCE! FOR TOMORROW WILL BE TOO LATE.


THE PACIFIC...
THAT DOES IT, I THINK. I HOPE.
MADELYNE, TRY THE ENGINE!


GNNRRRPOKATAPOKA
BLAM!
MADELYNE, CUT THE SWITCHES!
I WAS CERTAIN I HAD IT THIS TIME.
I MUST BE SCREWING UP, BUT I'M DARNED IF I CAN FIGURE OUT WHERE.
PITY I DIDN'T TURN OUT TO BE PHOENIX--LIKE MASTERMIND MADE YOU ALL BELIEVE--
--THEN I COULD SIMPLY FLY US TO SAFETY.
IF YOU HAD EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CONCEPTION OF THE REALITY OF PHOENIX, MADELYNE...
...YOU WOULDN'T MAKE JOKES.
YOU FORGET, SWEETHEART, I'M THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF A PLANE CRASH THAT KILLED NEARLY 400 PEOPLE.
I KNOW MORE THAN MY SHARE ABOUT DEATH AND RESURRECTION--AND NIGHTMARE...
...AND MIRACLES.
I MEAN, I SNARED YOU. HOW MUCH LUCKIER CAN I GET?
N55
FEELING'S MUTUAL, RED.
Y'KNOW, THERE ARE NO STORMS IN SPACE.
NO LIFE, EITHER.
BACK TO WORK, HOTSHOT. WE'VE BOTH FOUGHT TOO HARD FOR OURS TO GIVE UP NOW.

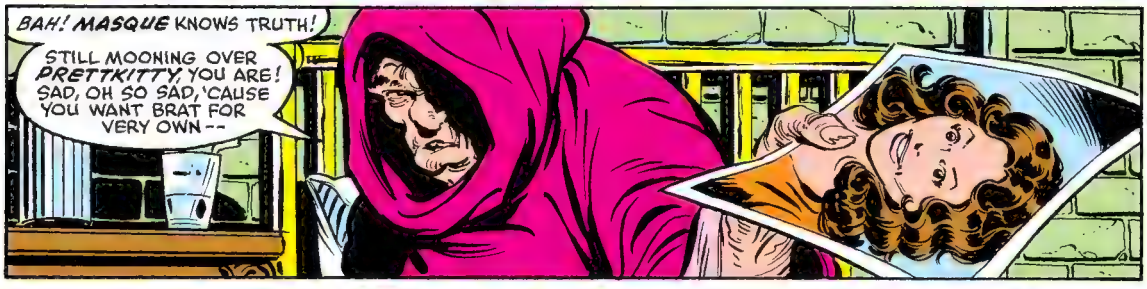

NEW YORK CITY...
EVERYONE THINKS OF IT AS REACHING FOR THE STARS, SKY-SCRAPERS TURNING ITS STREETS INTO MAN-MADE CANYONS.
ONE WAY
W 55
NO COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC
WALK
THEY FORGET IT REACHES THE OTHER WAY, TOO.
A THOUSAND FEET BELOW MANHATTAN IS WHERE THE MORLOCKS LIVE.
LIKE THE X-MEN, THEY ARE MUTANTS--BUT THEY CARE NOTHING FOR HUMANITY. THEY CONSIDER THEMSELVES OUTCASTS AND OUTLAWS, AND THESE TUNNELS ARE THEIR DOMAIN.

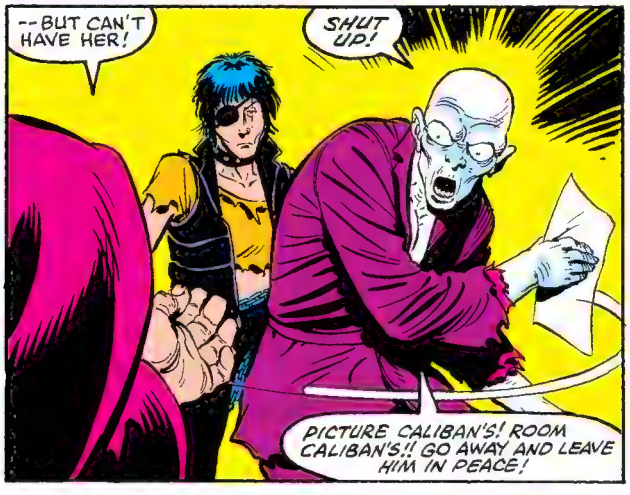

STRANGERS ENTER AT THEIR PERIL.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!!

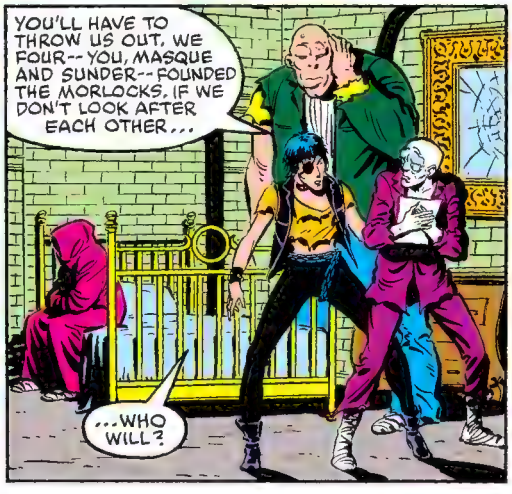

CALIBAN, IS THAT ANY WAY TO GREET OLD FRIENDS?
SPACE IS CALIBAN'S! YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO TRESPASS!
GET OUT!

WE HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN AGES. WE'RE CONCERNED, THAT'S ALL...
...WONDERING PERHAPS IF ANYTHING'S WRONG?

I MAY HAVE BEEN DEPOSED AS LEADER OF THE MORLOCKS BY THAT X-MAN WEATHER-WITCH STORM...
...BUT I STILL CARE ABOUT MY PEOPLE.
IT IS NOTHING. CALIBAN JUST WANTS TO BE LEFT ALONE.


BAH! MASQUE KNOWS TRUTH!
STILL MOONING OVER PRETTKITTY, YOU ARE! SAD, OH SO SAD, 'CAUSE YOU WANT BRAT FOR VERY OWN--


--BUT CAN'T HAVE HER!
SHUT UP!
PICTURE CALIBAN'S! ROOM CALIBAN'S!! GO AWAY AND LEAVE HIM IN PEACE!

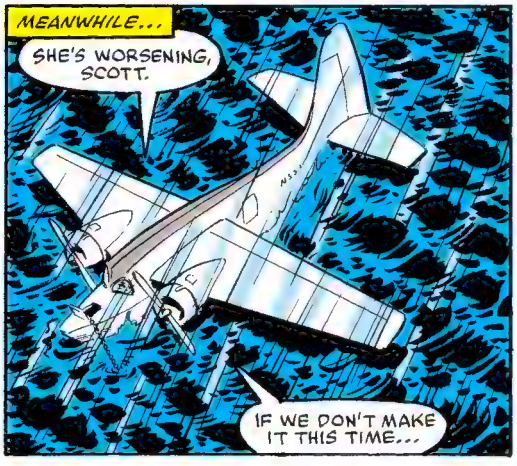

YOU'LL HAVE TO THROW US OUT. WE FOUR--YOU, MASQUE AND SUNDER--FOUNDED THE MORLOCKS. IF WE DON'T LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER...
...WHO WILL?

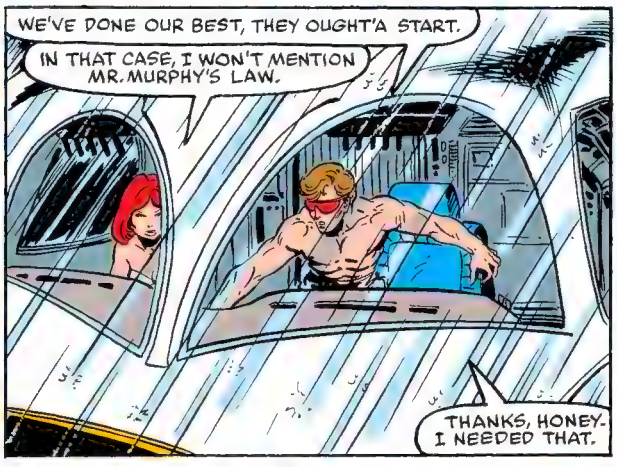
FEEL SO...ASHAMED!
KITTYPRIDE PROMISED THAT, IF CALIBAN HELPED THE X-MEN, SHE WOULD STAY WITH HIM FOREVER.
FOR LOVE OF HER, CALIBAN BETRAYED HIS FRIENDS.

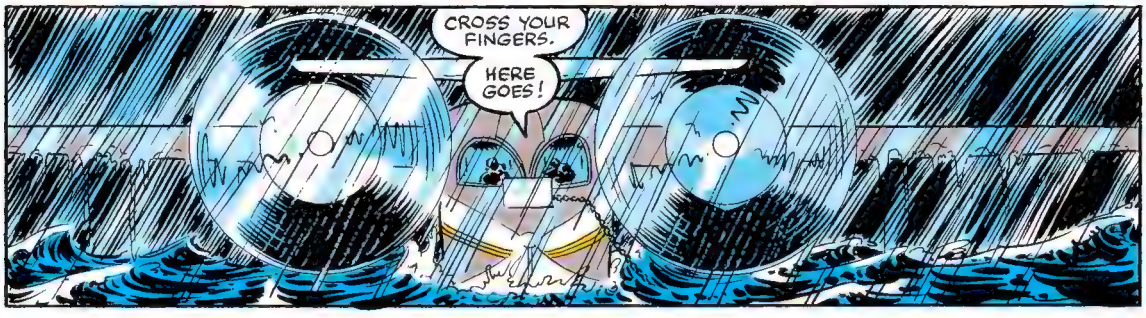
BUT SHE LIED. SHE NEVER RETURNED.
POOR THING--YOUR HEART MADE YOU SUCH A FOOL.
CALIBAN KNOWS.

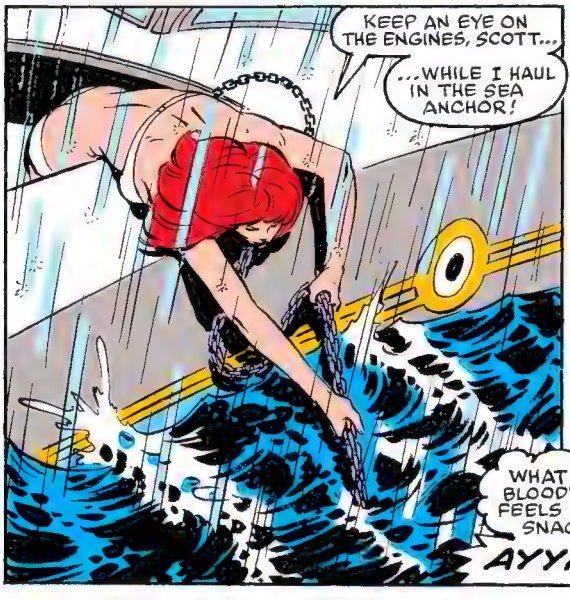
YOUR HATRED IS NO LESS THAN HE DESERVES.
IT'S THE CHILD WHO'S AT FAULT. SHE GAVE HER WORD.
I MEAN TO SEE SHE KEEPS IT.
REALLY, CALLISTO? NO JOKE?!

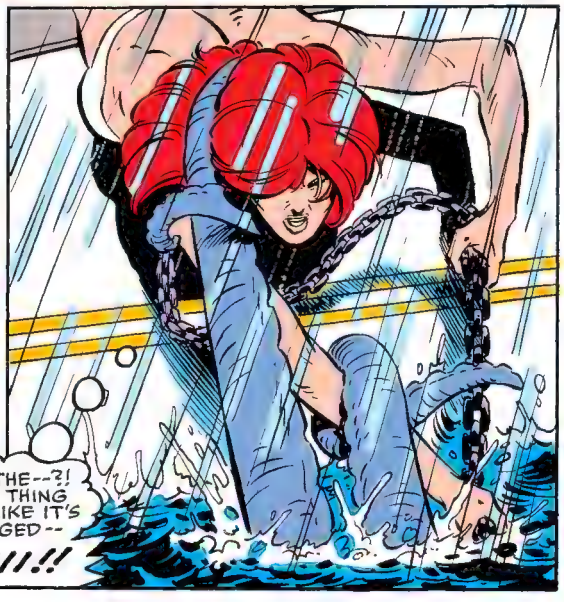
BE PATIENT, CALIBAN--TRUST ME, OBEY ME--AND YOUR HEART'S DESIRE WILL BE YOURS.
STORM BOSS NOW.
SUPPOSE SHE OBJECTS?
THEN, MASQUE, I GET MY HEART'S DESIRE, TOO.

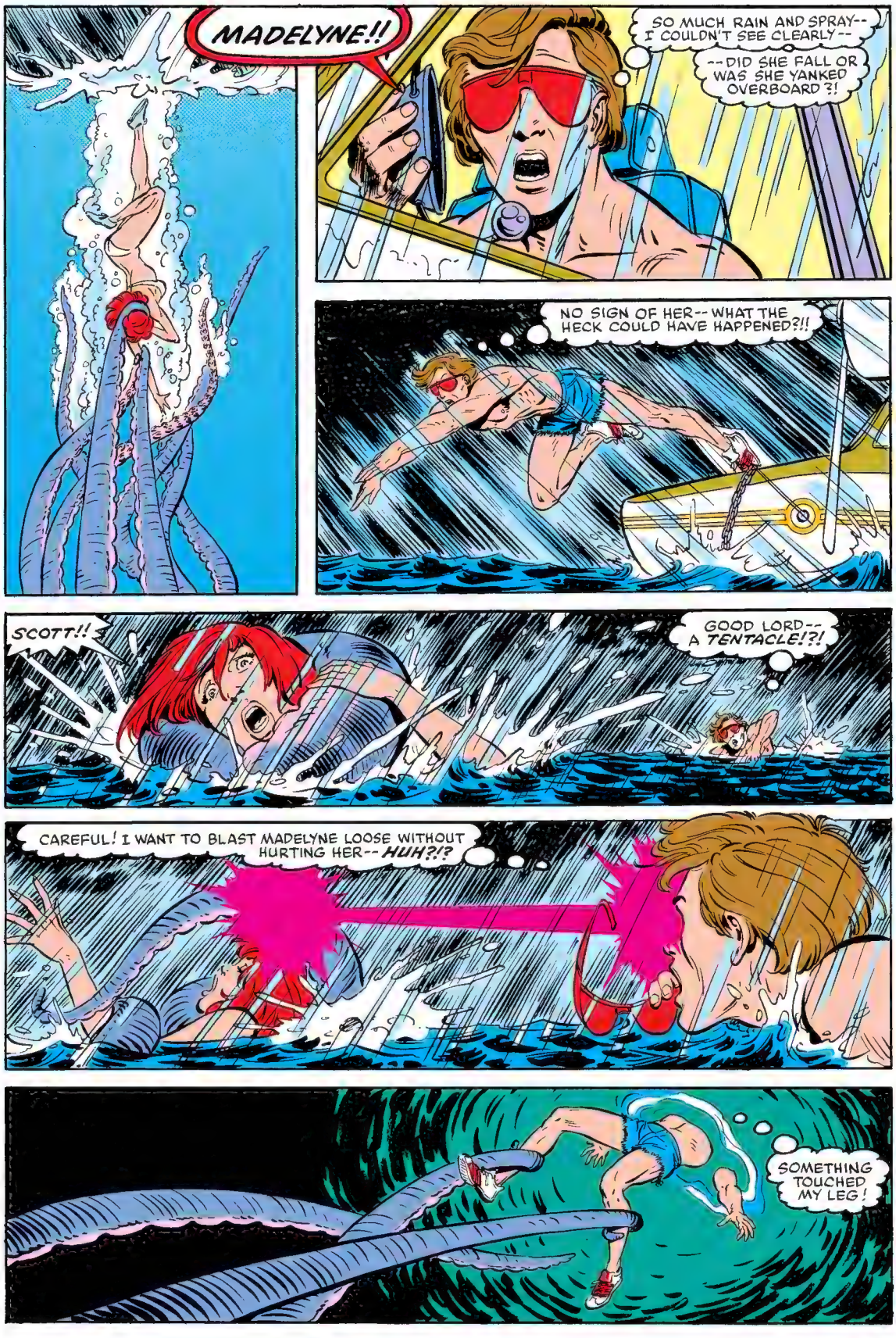

MEANWHILE...
SHE'S WORSENING, SCOTT.
IF WE DON'T MAKE IT THIS TIME...

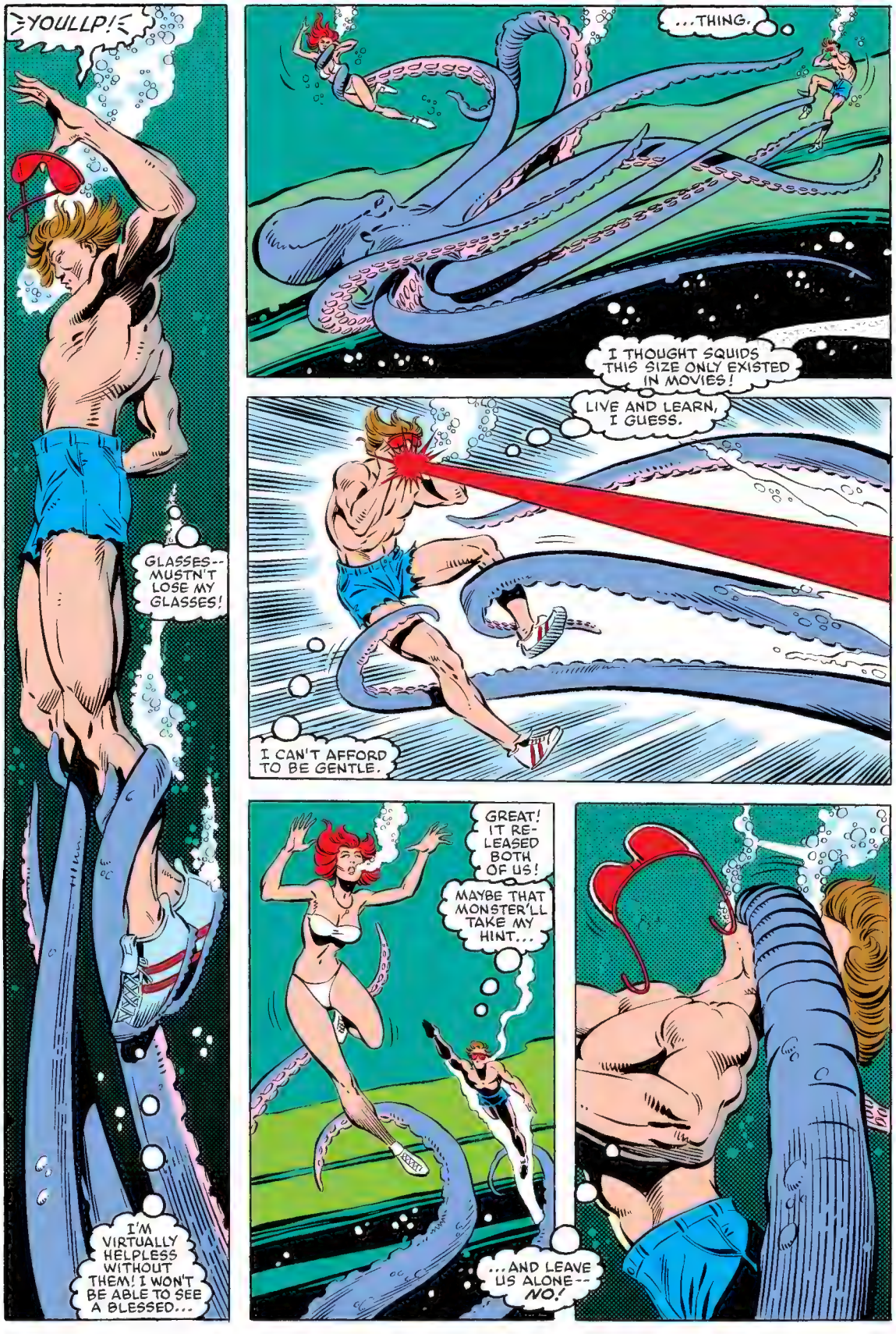

WE'VE DONE OUR BEST, THEY OUGHT'A START.
IN THAT CASE, I WON'T MENTION MR. MURPHY'S LAW.
THANKS, HONEY-I NEEDED THAT.

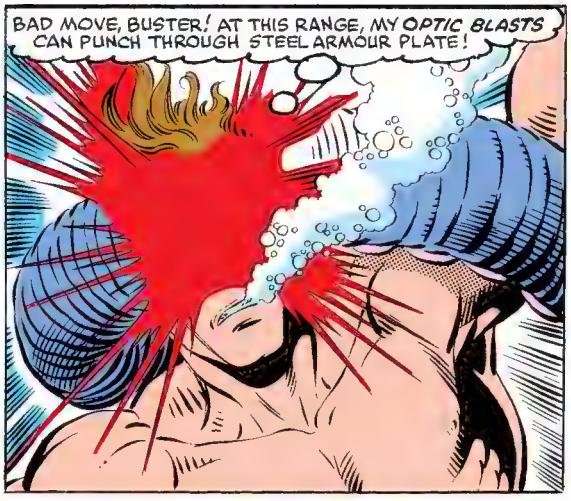

CROSS YOUR FINGERS.
HERE GOES!

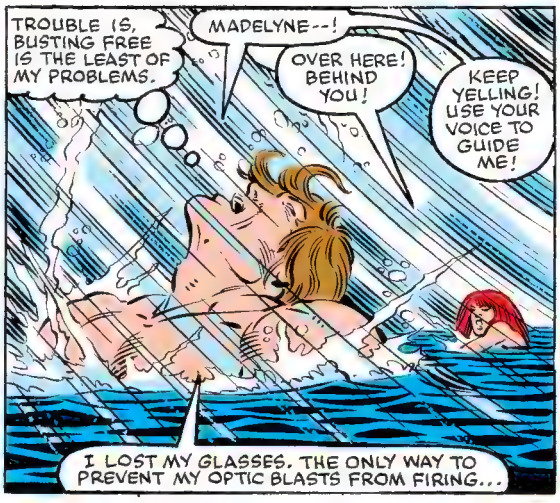

KEEP AN EYE ON THE ENGINES, SCOTT...
...WHILE I HAUL IN THE SEA ANCHOR!

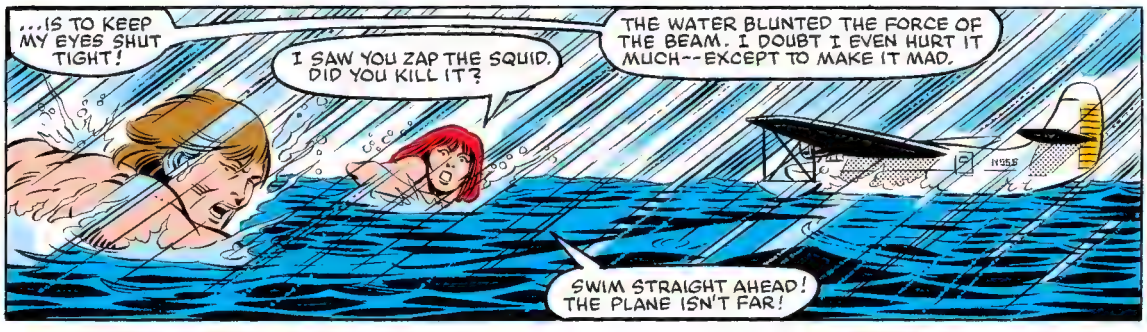

WHAT THE--?! BLOODY THING FEELS LIKE IT'S SNAGGED--
AYYIII!!


MADELYNE!!
SO MUCH RAIN AND SPRAY-- I COULDN'T SEE CLEARLY--
--DID SHE FALL OR WAS SHE YANKED OVERBOARD?!
NO SIGN OF HER-- WHAT THE HECK COULD HAVE HAPPENED?!!
SCOTT!!
GOOD LORD-- A TENTACLE!?!
CAREFUL! I WANT TO BLAST MADELYNE LOOSE WITHOUT HURTING HER-- HUH?!?
SOMETHING TOUCHED MY LEG!

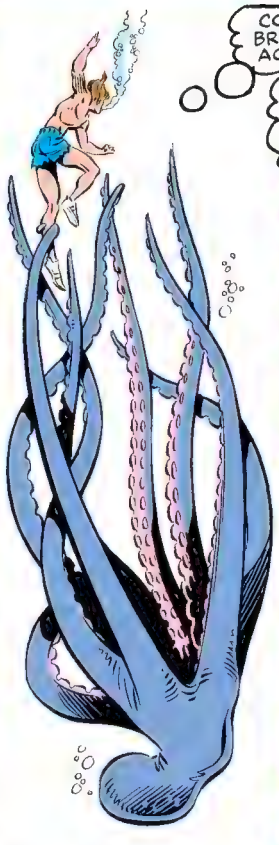

YOULLP!
GLASSES-- MUSTN'T LOSE MY GLASSES!
I'M VIRTUALLY HELPLESS WITHOUT THEM! I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE A BLESSED...
...THING.
I THOUGHT SQUIDS THIS SIZE ONLY EXISTED IN MOVIES!
LIVE AND LEARN, I GUESS.
I CAN'T AFFORD TO BE GENTLE.
GREAT! IT RE-LEASED BOTH OF US!
MAYBE THAT MONSTER'LL TAKE MY HINT...
...AND LEAVE US ALONE-- NO!

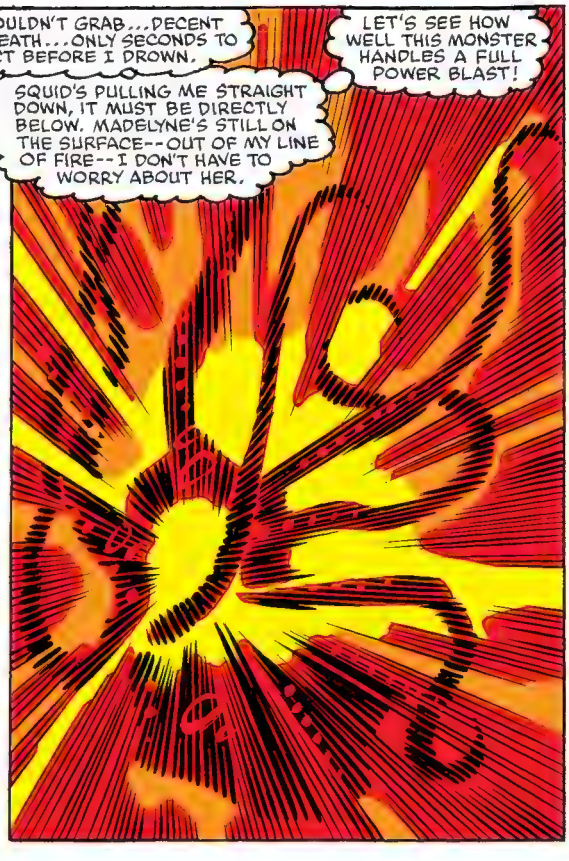

BAD MOVE, BUSTER! AT THIS RANGE, MY OPTIC BLASTS CAN PUNCH THROUGH STEEL ARMOUR PLATE!

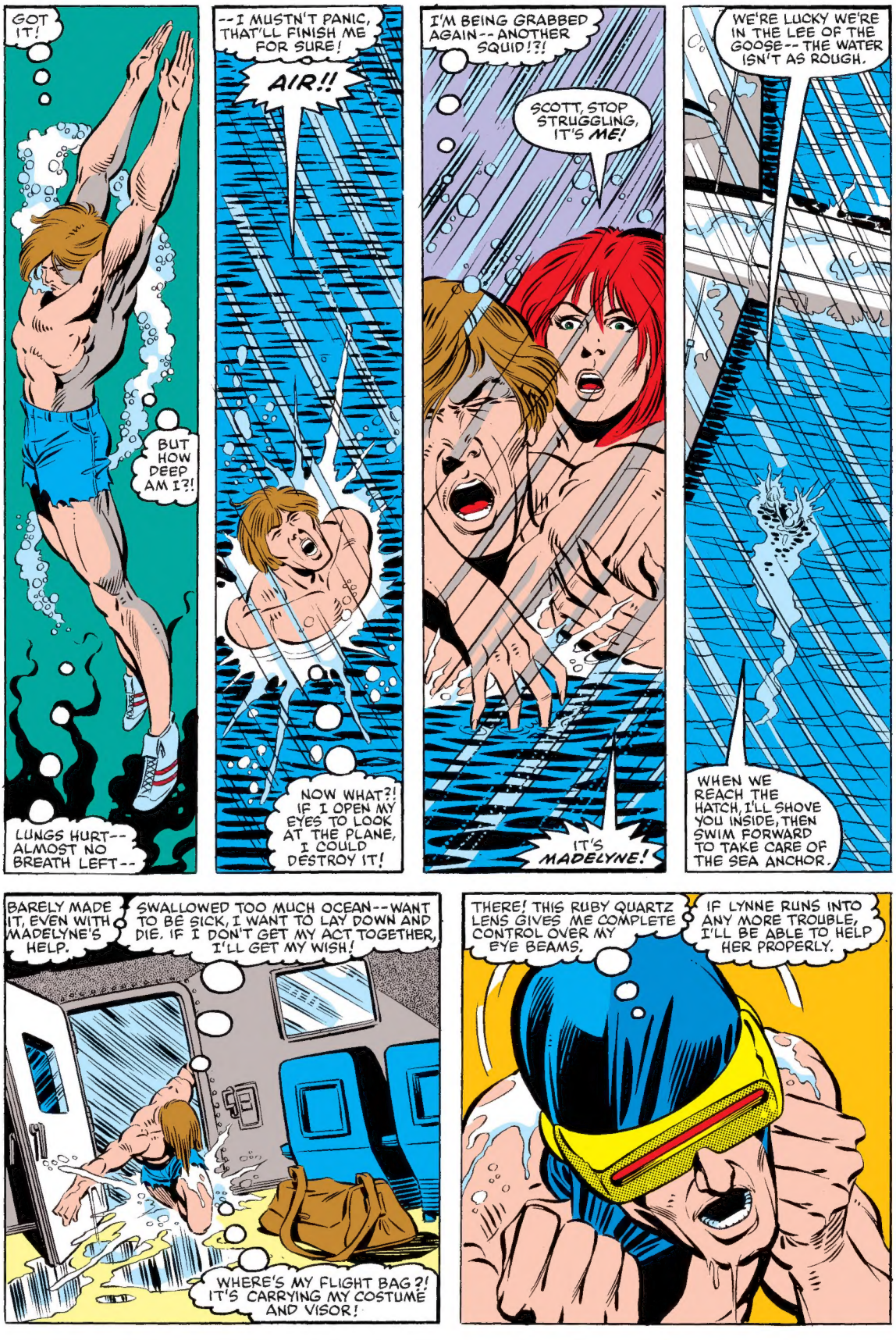

TROUBLE IS, BUSTING FREE IS THE LEAST OF MY PROBLEMS.
MADELYNE--!
OVER HERE! BEHIND YOU!
KEEP YELLING! USE YOUR VOICE TO GUIDE ME!
I LOST MY GLASSES. THE ONLY WAY TO PREVENT MY OPTIC BLASTS FROM FIRING...

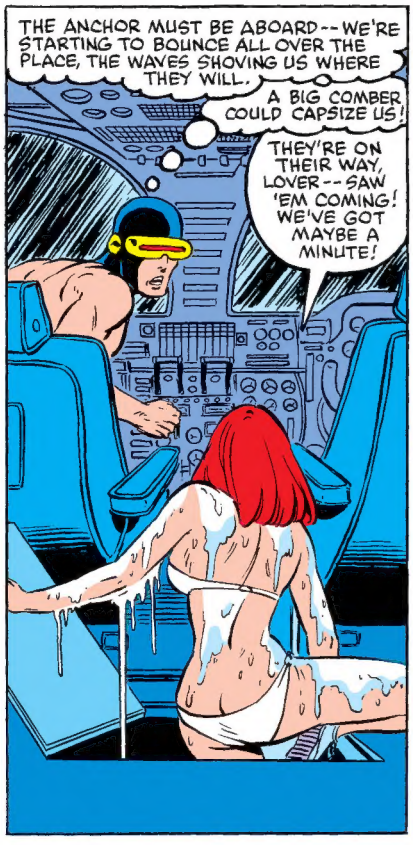

...IS TO KEEP MY EYES SHUT TIGHT!
I SAW YOU ZAP THE SQUID. DID YOU KILL IT?
THE WATER BLUNTED THE FORCE OF THE BEAM. I DOUBT I EVEN HURT IT MUCH--EXCEPT TO MAKE IT MAD.
SWIM STRAIGHT AHEAD! THE PLANE ISN'T FAR!

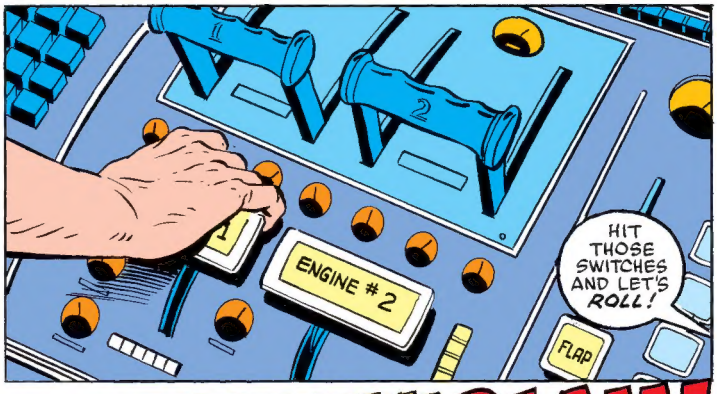
OH, NO!

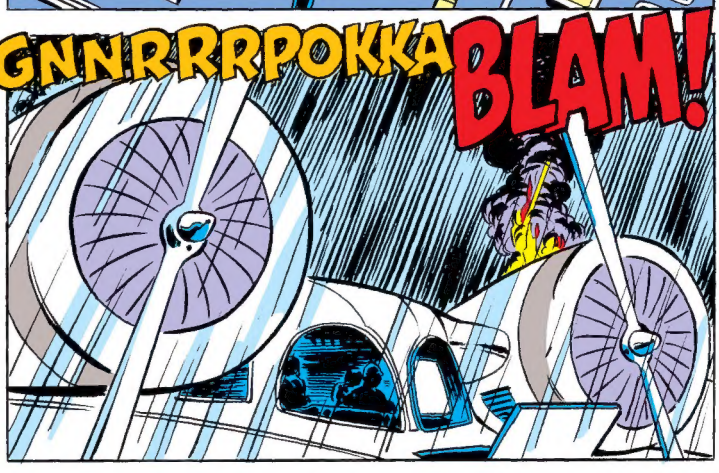



COULDN'T GRAB...DECENT BREATH...ONLY SECONDS TO ACT BEFORE I DROWN.
SQUID'S PULLING ME STRAIGHT DOWN, IT MUST BE DIRECTLY BELOW. MADELYNE'S STILL ON THE SURFACE--OUT OF MY LINE OF FIRE--I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HER.
LET'S SEE HOW WELL THIS MONSTER HANDLES A FULL POWER BLAST!

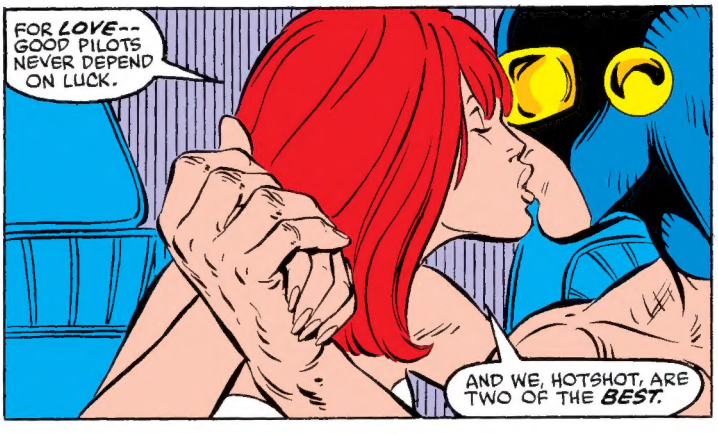

GOT IT!
BUT HOW DEEP AM I?!
LUNGS HURT-- ALMOST NO BREATH LEFT--
--I MUSTN'T PANIC, THAT'LL FINISH ME FOR SURE!
AIR!!
NOW WHAT?! IF I OPEN MY EYES TO LOOK AT THE PLANE, I COULD DESTROY IT!
I'M BEING GRABBED AGAIN--ANOTHER SQUID!?!
SCOTT, STOP STRUGGLING, IT'S ME!
IT'S MADELYNE!
WE'RE LUCKY WE'RE IN THE LEE OF THE GOOSE--THE WATER ISN'T AS ROUGH.
WHEN WE REACH THE HATCH, I'LL SHOVE YOU INSIDE, THEN SWIM FORWARD TO TAKE CARE OF THE SEA ANCHOR.
BARELY MADE IT, EVEN WITH MADELYNE'S HELP.
SWALLOWED TOO MUCH OCEAN--WANT TO BE SICK, I WANT TO LAY DOWN AND DIE. IF I DON'T GET MY ACT TOGETHER, I'LL GET MY WISH!
WHERE'S MY FLIGHT BAG?! IT'S CARRYING MY COSTUME AND VISOR!
THERE! THIS RUBY QUARTZ LENS GIVES ME COMPLETE CONTROL OVER MY EYE BEAMS.
IF LYNNE RUNS INTO ANY MORE TROUBLE, I'LL BE ABLE TO HELP HER PROPERLY.

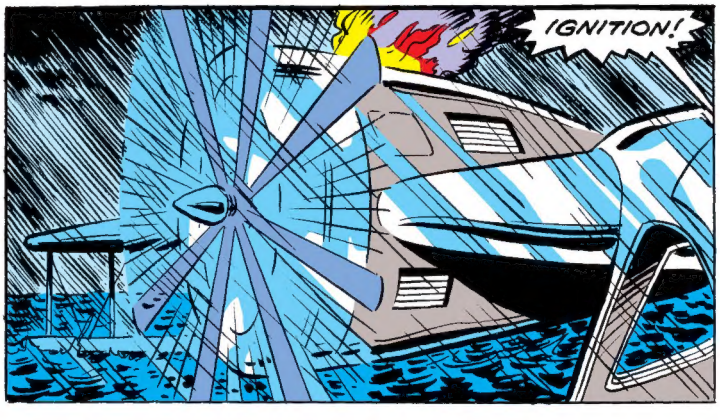

THE ANCHOR MUST BE ABOARD--WE'RE STARTING TO BOUNCE ALL OVER THE PLACE, THE WAVES SHOVING US WHERE THEY WILL.
A BIG COMBER COULD CAPSIZE US!
THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY, LOVER--SAW 'EM COMING! WE'VE GOT MAYBE A MINUTE!


ENGINE # 2
HIT THOSE SWITCHES AND LET'S ROLL!
FLAP

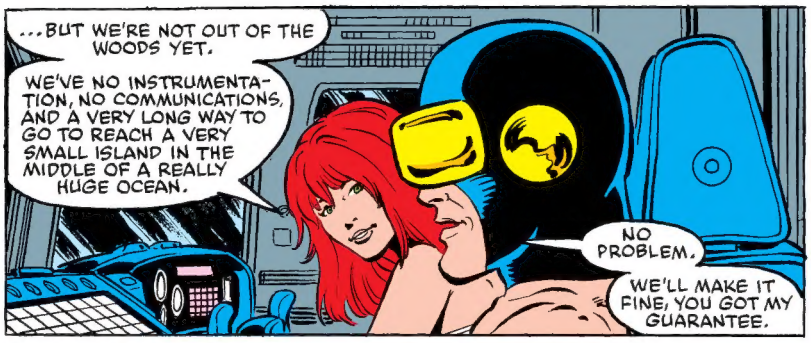

GNNRRRPOKKA
BLAM!

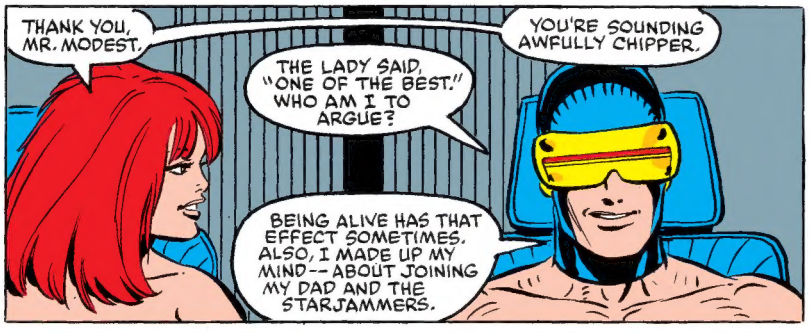
THEY WON'T START!
SMALL WONDER, THIS IS AN AIRPLANE, NOT A SUBMARINE. THE ENGINES ARE PROBABLY AS WATER-LOGGED AS WE ARE.
TRUE, NOTHING LEFT BUT TO KEEP TRYING 'TIL WE GET IT RIGHT.
HOW 'BOUT A KISS--FOR LUCK?


FOR LOVE--GOOD PILOTS NEVER DEPEND ON LUCK.
AND WE, HOTSHOT, ARE TWO OF THE BEST.

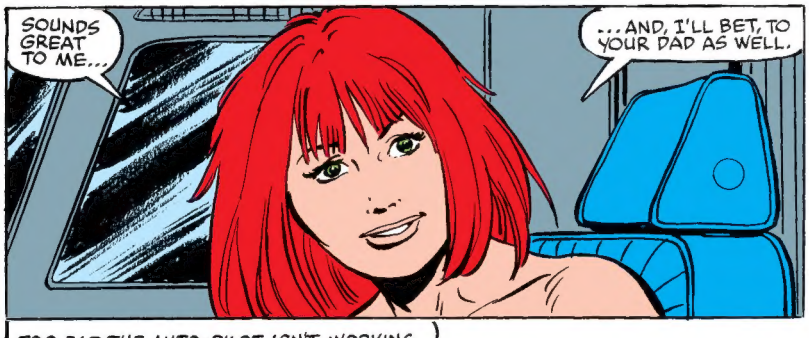

IGNITION!

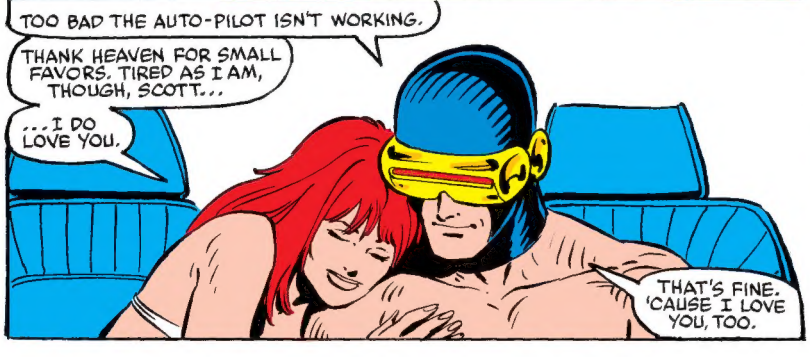
CATCH, YOU BIG, UGLY BEAST--CATCH!
WAH--HOOO!!
WE'RE--AIRBORNE!!
SCOTT, LOVE, I HATE TO SPOIL AN ABSOLUTELY MAGNIFICENT MOMENT...


...BUT WE'RE NOT OUT OF THE WOODS YET.
WE'VE NO INSTRUMENTATION, NO COMMUNICATIONS, AND A VERY LONG WAY TO GO TO REACH A VERY SMALL ISLAND IN THE MIDDLE OF A REALLY HUGE OCEAN.
NO PROBLEM.
WE'LL MAKE IT FINE, YOU GOT MY GUARANTEE.


THANK YOU, MR. MODEST.
THE LADY SAID, "ONE OF THE BEST." WHO AM I TO ARGUE?
YOU'RE SOUNDING AWFULLY CHIPPER.
BEING ALIVE HAS THAT EFFECT SOMETIMES. ALSO, I MADE UP MY MIND--ABOUT JOINING MY DAD AND THE STARJAMMERS.

HE'S GOING OFF TO FIGHT A WAR. I'VE SEEN ENOUGH OF WAR, AND DEATH. HIS LIFE'S MADE HIM HARD--ALMOST CRUEL--IN A WAY I NEVER WANT TO BE. I WANT TO BE SELFISH FOR A WHILE. I WANT A LIFE, A FAMILY--ALL THE THINGS I NEVER HAD BEFORE THE X-MEN.
I WANT YOU, MADELYNE. I WANT TO BE HAPPY.
IS THAT WRONG?


SOUNDS GREAT TO ME...
...AND, I'LL BET, TO YOUR DAD AS WELL.


TOO BAD THE AUTO-PILOT ISN'T WORKING.
THANK HEAVEN FOR SMALL FAVORS. TIRED AS I AM, THOUGH, SCOTT...
...I DO LOVE YOU.
THAT'S FINE. 'CAUSE I LOVE YOU, TOO.

THE BEGINNING.
NEXT ISSUE:
SANCTIONS